

November 8, 2016

---DROUGHT WARNING/DROUGHT WATCH---

Dear Public Water Supplier:

DEP Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell, on behalf of Governor Tom Wolf, announced revised drought declarations on November 3, 2016. Please consult the list below and review and update your Drought Contingency Plan (DCP), if necessary, to account for any changes in your sources or the demands on your system.

Drought Status

The following is the list of Pennsylvania counties and their current drought declaration status:

Drought Warning:

Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, and Northampton.

Drought Watch:

Adams, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Center, Chester, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Mifflin, Montgomery, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Union, Wayne, and York.

Normal Status:

Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Blair, Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Columbia, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Montour, Potter, Somerset, Susquehanna, Tioga, Venango, Warren, Washington, Westmoreland, and Wyoming.

Data from the Commonwealth drought monitoring network show that dry conditions persisting in the middle of the state and lack of precipitation in the eastern part of the state have deepened precipitation deficits, resulting in extremely low stream flow and groundwater levels, particularly in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding area in the Delaware River Basin.

Recommended Water Use Reductions:

- **Drought watch:** Seek 5 percent reduction through voluntary conservation measures.
- **Drought warning:** Seek 10-15 percent reductions through voluntary measures.

Your Drought Contingency Plan

If you do not have a DCP, or your existing DCP is older than 3 years, you should be preparing one. If you're preparing one for the first time, we have information available to help you at our www.dep.pa.gov/Drought. Refer to the DCP Checklist and Drought Management Guidelines under the Public Water Supply section on the drought forms page. For technical assistance, please call our Planning and Conservation Division at 717.772.4048.

After you have completed your DCP, you should submit it to us for review and approval. DCPs can be submitted online through the Drought Emergency Application link on the drought forms web page.

We post drought updates on this website on a regular basis to keep you informed of emerging conditions. The website also either provides or links to information that is useful for monitoring conditions in your area or educating your customers on methods of conserving water. If you have a website, you may wish to link directly to the Drought Information Center so your customers have ready access to our information as well.

If you have any questions, or we can be of assistance to you in any way, please feel free to contact our Planning and Conservation Division at droughtinfo@pa.gov or 717.772.4048.

Sincerely,



David B. Jostenski, P.E.
Commonwealth Drought Coordinator