

# Watershed MANAGEMENT



## Drought Information Center

**February 7, 2000**

The only precipitation data available this morning is for the 24-hour period ending yesterday, February 6 at 12:00 noon. There were light snow showers for this period over all but the southeastern quadrant of the state, with sporadic accumulations up to 1.5 or two inches.

In the Delaware River Basin, the most common trend is little or no change in stream flows since last Friday. The exceptions to this rule are flow recessions for the mainstem Delaware River, and for the Lackawaxen River, Bush Kill, Brodhead Creek, Tohickon Creek and Neshaminy Creek basins. The mainstem Delaware River is holding almost steady from 13,400 to 13,300 cfs. at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River is down from 547 to 422 cfs. at Hawley. The Lehigh River is almost unchanged from 1,250 to 1,240 cfs. at Bethlehem. The Schuylkill River is up slightly from 1,220 to 1,250 cfs. at Philadelphia and the Brandywine Creek is holding fairly even from 244 to 228 cfs. at Chadds Ford. About 85% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at below normal flow for February 7.

Since February 4, the rule for the Susquehanna River Basin is flow recession. The mainstem Susquehanna River, Juniata River, Yellow Breeches Creek, West Conewago Creek, Codorus Creek and Conestoga River basins are holding rather even. The Susquehanna River is down from 4,860 to 4,300 cfs. at Towanda, holding almost even from 23,800 to 23,600 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre, and almost even from 47,400 to 47,000 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is down from 2,660 to 2,460 cfs. at Lock Haven, down slightly from 3,450 to 3,250 cfs. at Williamsport, and down from 8,440 to 3,800 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River is almost steady from 3,240 to 3,270 cfs. at Newport and the Conestoga River is also almost unchanged from 298 to 285 cfs. at Conestoga. About 80% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at below normal flow for this date.

The Ohio River Basin shows mainly flow recessions over the past three days. Pine Creek, Beaver River and Raccoon Creek basins are holding fairly even. The Allegheny River is down from 5,710 to 5,230 cfs. at Natrona. The mainstem Ohio River is down from 11,400 to 8,990 cfs. at Sewickley. The Kiskiminetas River is down from 2,140 to 1,580 cfs. at Vandergrift. The Monongahela River is down from 3,910 to 2,200 cfs. at Braddock and the Beaver River is down marginally from 1,260 to 1,220 cfs. at Beaver Falls. About 95% of the stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at below normal flow for today's date.

Since February 4, 27 counties with monitoring wells show a water level rise for one county and drops for 26. The increase is 0.48 ft. (Franklin County). Decreases range from 0.03 to 1.96 ft. (Carbon County) with an average fall of 0.30 ft. The previous Warren County reading was made on January 31.

Between one-tenth and one inch of precipitation (water equivalent) is forecast for all but the southeastern counties over the next five days, with the greater amounts expected to the northwest. For the period February 12 to 17, between one and 1.5 inches of precipitation is likely across the entire state. Temperatures for the next ten days are expected to be somewhat below normal especially during the later part of the period.