

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

March 10, 1999

Between one-half and three-quarters of an inch of precipitation fell over the southwestern region of the Commonwealth during the past 24 hours with the precipitation rapidly diminishing north and east of the southwest quadrant.

Delaware River system flows have generally held steady over the past 24-hours, and remain near normal to slightly below normal. The Delaware River at Trenton at 6:15 this morning was flowing at 13,400 cubic feet per second (cfs), down from 15,100 cfs yesterday. The Lehigh, and Schuylkill River flows are declining slightly but are near normal, while the Lackawaxen River is exhibiting a slight increase in flow. The Christina watershed flows remain steady but below normal.

Susquehanna River flows at Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury and Harrisburg are continuing to decline and are nearing normal conditions. The Susquehanna River flow at Harrisburg has decreased from 58,400 cfs yesterday to 49,000 cfs this morning. West Branch Susquehanna River basin flows are near normal and have exhibited little change since yesterday. The West Branch flow at Renovo receded from 5690cfs to 5310 cfs over the past 24 hours. At Williamsport, flow was down 1300 cfs from yesterday to 12,900 cfs. The Juniata River flow at Newport declined from 4600 cfs yesterday to 4160 cfs this morning, approximately 2100 cfs below normal for this time of year. The Conestoga River system continues to hold steady, though the Conestoga flows remain below normal.

In the Ohio River basin, Allegheny River watershed flows generally held steady from yesterday and remain below normal. The Allegheny River at Natrona this morning was flowing at 20,700 cfs, 16,000 cfs below normal flow. Stream flows in the Monongahela watershed showed little change, but remain above normal. Flow in the Monongahela River at Braddock this morning was 35,500 cfs, up from 33,200 cfs yesterday and well above normal. The Kiskiminetas River system is showing little change from yesterday and remains just below normal conditions. The Ohio River flow at Sewickley this morning was 60,100, which is a little greater than normal for this time of year.

Groundwater levels are showing some improvement with only 9 of the 27 daily monitoring wells declining, generally along a north-south line in the center of the state.

The extended weather forecast for eastern Pennsylvania calls for mostly cloudy conditions Friday with a chance of snow showers. Saturday will be partly cloudy with increasing cloudiness and snow likely Saturday night. Snow is likely Sunday, changing to mixed precipitation, then to rain in the south. In western Pennsylvania, cloudy conditions will prevail through Friday. It will be partly sunny Saturday. Sunday, a chance of snow or rain is predicted.

