

# Watershed MANAGEMENT



## Drought Information Center

**January 29, 1999**

Minimal precipitation occurred during the past 24 hours, limited again to a few scattered showers in the northern tier counties, east of Potter County. Localized totals were less than 0.1 inch.

Delaware River basin stream flows continue to decline throughout the basin. The Delaware River at Trenton is down from 25,900 cubic feet per second (cfs) yesterday to 20,500 cfs today. All gages in the basin declined today, as the runoff peaks from last weekend's precipitation have now flowed down through the basin and entered the bay. Stream flows remain above normal in the basin above the Schuylkill River. Lower basin flows, including a few of the smaller Schuylkill tributaries are near or below normal again, with the majority of Christina River basin gages reading below normal this morning.

Susquehanna River main stem flows are down from yesterday at all gages. While Chemung basin flows are up somewhat, perhaps reflecting the previous day's precipitation in that area, all other upper basin tributary flows have declined. West Branch main stem and tributary flows are mixed, but generally showing decreases. The West Branch at Lewisburg is down from 32,500 cfs yesterday to 26,700 cfs today. Flows in the upper Juniata watershed are up significantly, many nearly doubled from yesterday, while lower watershed flows have declined. Tributary flows in the lower Susquehanna basin are declining, as reflected by the Conestoga River at Conestoga, down from 685 to 594 cfs. Overall, flows in the Susquehanna basin remain above normal, with a few scattered exceptions on smaller tributaries.

In the Ohio River basin, nearly all Allegheny River main stem flows increased, with flows at Natrona up from 53,700 cfs yesterday to 60,100 cfs today. Allegheny tributary flows are mixed, with little change from yesterday in the upper watershed; Kiskiminetas watershed flows are generally increased. Upper Monongahela watershed flows have declined, while lower watershed flows have generally increased. The lower main stem at Braddock is down from 33,300 to 30,700 cfs. Beaver watershed flows are all increased from yesterday, with the lower main stem at Beaver Falls up marginally from 10,200 to 11,500 cfs. The Ohio River at Sewickley increased marginally as well, from 91,000 to 93,700 cfs.

In the Delaware River basin, the New York City reservoir storage increased to 16.1 billion gallons above the "drought warning" rule curve yesterday, beginning the five-day countdown to resume normal reservoir operations in the basin.

No ground water data is available this morning. In reviewing some of the interim ground water data available yesterday, we noted that some of the monitoring wells have improved to normal conditions.

As indicated yesterday, we await the end-of-month information to do a complete review of the ground water picture next week.

Little precipitation is forecast for the next three days, mostly in the form of scattered showers or flurries. Temperatures are to decline significantly through the weekend. The overall five-day forecast indicates less than 0.1 inch of precipitation statewide. The ten-day forecast continues to indicate an additional 1.5-2.0 inches. Temperatures in the 5-10 day period are to be above normal