

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

February 23, 1999

Under mostly clear skies, the Commonwealth received no appreciable precipitation during the past 24 hours.

Stream flows in the Delaware River basin generally continue their downward trend. The main stem at Trenton is down from 11,600 cubic feet per second (cfs) yesterday to 10,800 cfs this morning. The Lackawaxen at Hawley is up somewhat from 272 to 305 cfs, while the Lehigh at Bethlehem is down from 2380 to 2120 cfs and the Schuylkill at Philadelphia is down from 2640 to 2250 cfs. A few Christina watershed tributaries are up slightly, while Brandywine Creek at Chadds Ford is down from 268 to 254 cfs. Again, the majority of gages in the basin are reading below normal today.

Throughout the Susquehanna River basin, flows are also continuing downward. The main stem at Harrisburg is down from 34,100 to 30,100 cfs. The Lackawanna at Old Forge is down from 348 to 322 cfs, the West Branch at Lewisburg is down from 10,600 to 9160 cfs, and the Juniata at Newport is down from 2160 to 2030 cfs. In the lower basin, the Conestoga River at Conestoga is also down, from 466 to 416 cfs. Many gages throughout the basin are reading below normal again this morning.

The Ohio River basin shows similar trends. The Allegheny at Natrona is down from 20,800 to 15,200 cfs. The Kiskiminetas at Vandergrift is down from 2000 to 1460 cfs, the Monongahela River at Braddock is down from 8840 to 8510, and the Beaver River at Beaver Falls is down from 3270 to 3120 cfs. The Ohio River at Sewickley is down from 28,200 to 26,600 cfs. The majority of basin gages are below normal.

No ground water data is available this morning.

The three-day forecast is for a chance of light snow in the west and snow flurries in the eastern portion of the Commonwealth. Forecast accumulations are for up to 0.2 inches of water content north of a Westmoreland to Pike County line. The long-range 6 to 10 day forecast is for below normal precipitation north of a line from Mercer-to-McKean County. Above normal precipitation is forecast for most of the eastern portion of the Commonwealth along a line from Chester-to-Pike County. Normal precipitation is forecast for the rest of the Commonwealth. Normal precipitation for this period is about 0.5 inch.