

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

March 11, 1999

Light precipitation totaling less than one-tenth of an inch fell over the southwestern and central mountain regions of the Commonwealth during the past 24 hours. Some locally heavier precipitation was recorded in Bedford and Union counties.

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 12,700 cubic feet per second (cfs), down from 13,400 cfs yesterday. The Lehigh, and Schuylkill River flows are holding steady and are near normal, while the Lackawaxen River flow has dropped off since yesterday and is slightly below normal. The Christina watershed flows remain steady but below normal.

Susquehanna River flows at Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury and Harrisburg are continuing to decline and are just below normal conditions. The Susquehanna River flow at Harrisburg has decreased from 49,000 cfs yesterday to 41,600 cfs this morning. West Branch Susquehanna River basin flows are nearly normal and have exhibited little overall change since yesterday. The West Branch flow at Renovo receded from 5310cfs to 5060 cfs over the past 24 hours. At Williamsport, flow was down 1000 cfs from yesterday to 11,900 cfs. The Juniata River flow at Newport declined from 4160 cfs yesterday to 3940 cfs this morning, approximately 2300 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 are slowly declining and remain below normal. The Allegheny River at Natrona this morning was flowing at 18,900 cfs, 15,000 cfs below normal flow. Stream flows in the Monongahela watershed is also noticeably receding, but remains generally above normal. Flow in the Monongahela River at Braddock this morning was 25,000 cfs, down from 34,400 cfs yesterday, but still 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 51,400, which is a little less than normal for this time of the year.

Groundwater levels in 18 of the 27 daily monitoring wells have declined since yesterday. Most of the recorded gains were in the Delaware watershed.

The extended weather forecast for eastern Pennsylvania calls for partly cloudy conditions Saturday with a chance of snow or rain Sunday and Monday. The extended outlook through next week calls for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. In western Pennsylvania, fair and cold conditions will prevail through Friday. It will be partly sunny Saturday. Sunday and Monday, a chance of snow is predicted.

