

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

October 28, 1999

In the past three days there was no precipitation in the Commonwealth with the exception of some very small areas with under a quarter-inch rainfall total. Thus far for the month of October there is one county in Pennsylvania with a rainfall total between 51 and 75% below normal. There are 23 counties with October rainfall totals between 26 and 50% below normal, and 41 counties with rainfall totals for this month between 25% below and 25% above normal. There are two counties with October rainfall totals between 26 and 50% above normal.

Streams in the Delaware River Basin have generally receded over the past three days. The exceptions are the mainstem Delaware River above Montague, which shows flow enhancement, and both Frankford Creek and Crum Creek Basins that are holding fairly even. The mainstem Delaware River at Trenton is down from 7,290 to 6,310 cfs. The Lackawaxen River at Hawley is down from 166 to 141 cfs. The Lehigh River at Bethlehem is down from 1,670 to 1,300 cfs. The Schuylkill River at Philadelphia is down from 1,830 to 1,380 cfs. and the Brandywine Creek at Chadds Ford is down from 1,670 to 1,300 cfs. About 70% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at above normal flow for October 28.

In the Susquehanna River Basin, most streams have also receded since Monday. Only the extreme upper reaches of the mainstem Susquehanna River, and the Codorus Creek Basin have slight flow enhancements. The Susquehanna River is up slightly from 2,510 to 2,560 cfs. at Towanda, down from 4,030 to 3,810 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre and down from 10,300 to 9,030 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is down from 761 to 708 cfs. at Lock Haven, down from 1,670 to 1,470 cfs. at Williamsport and down from 2,490 to 2,170 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River at Newport is down from 1,250 to 1,190 cfs. and the Conestoga River at Conestoga is down from 438 to 362 cfs. About 65% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at below normal flow for today's date.

The rule for the Ohio River Basin is also stream recession since October 25. Exceptions are flow enhancements in the lower reaches of the mainstem Allegheny River, flow enhancements on the Ohio River, and mixed gauge changes for the Kiskiminetas River Basin, Monongahela River Basin and the Beaver River Basin. The Allegheny River at Natrona is up from 3,140 to 5,540 cfs. The mainstem Ohio River at Sewickley is up from 5,360 to 6,380 cfs. The Kiskiminetas River at Vandergrift is down from 653 to 488 cfs. The Monongahela River at Braddock is down from 1,960 to 1,790 cfs. and the Beaver River at Beaver Falls is down from 827 to 690 cfs. About 95% of the stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at below normal flow for this date.

Since October 25, 27 counties with monitoring wells show a water level rise for two counties and a

drop for 24. The Allegheny County well shows no change. Water level rises range from 0.01 to 3.94 ft. with an average increase of 1.98 ft. Decreases range from 0.01 to 1.61 ft. with an average drop of 0.36 ft.

Essentially no precipitation is forecast for the Pennsylvania through November 6. Temperatures for the period are expected to be about normal.