

September 19, 2007

The last 7 days have brought below average to well below average precipitation across the state except for the northeast and southwest regions that show above average rain. The monthly trend is normal to somewhat above normal for most of the state.

For the 90-day precipitation drought indicator changes, the Northern/central tier counties show many in 'watch' status; Philadelphia county still designated 'warning' and the balance of counties designated 'normal'.

Stream flow indicators remain in normal status except for Adams and Sullivan Counties, which remain in watch status. The average 30-day streamflow values have peaked with some decreasing across the state. This trend should continue as there is little or no rain projected for the next seven days. If the lack of precipitation continues, there is a chance that additional counties would move back into drought watch status. Several gages are now in the lower 10-percentile range. The southeastern portion of the state is now the area with the lowest overall streamflow values.

Groundwater levels continue to show stress with indicators in watch or warning status across the Ridge and Valley, with the exception of a pocket of counties that are normal.

Forecasts for the next 7-days indicate there is little possibility of rainfall which is well below normal conditions. The 14-day forecast provides some hope for 1.0 - 1.5 inches for most of the state and possibly 1.5-3.0 inches for the northeastern counties.

Conditions will continue to be monitored closely. A drought watch remains in effect for 32 counties.