

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

March 9, 1999

Scattered and light precipitation fell over the Commonwealth during the past 24 hours with only a few areas of extreme northwestern and central Pennsylvania receiving over one-tenth of an inch.

Delaware River system flows are close to normal this morning, but are generally receding throughout the basin. The Delaware River at Trenton at 6:15 this morning was flowing at 15,100 cubic feet per second (cfs), down from 17,400 cfs yesterday. The Lackawaxen, Lehigh, and Schuylkill River flows are all declining slightly but are near normal. The Christina watershed flows are holding steady but all gages are recording below normal flows.

Susquehanna River flows at Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury and Harrisburg are continuing to decline but remain above normal conditions. The Susquehanna River flow at Harrisburg has decreased from 77,300 cfs yesterday to 58,400 cfs this morning. West Branch Susquehanna River basin flows are near normal but are generally declining throughout the watershed. The West Branch flow at Renovo receded from 6770cfs to 5690 cfs over the past 24 hours. At Williamsport, flow was down 3500 cfs from yesterday to 14,200 cfs. The Juniata River at Newport also declined from 5520 cfs to 4600 cfs, which is approximately 2500 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 increased slightly over yesterday but are generally below normal. The Allegheny River at Natrona this morning was flowing at 22,200 cfs, 1500 cfs below normal flow. Stream flows in the Monongahela watershed are also generally declining, but remain above normal. Flow in the Monongahela River at Braddock this morning was 33,200 cfs, down from 45,100 cfs yesterday yet still well 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 is 57,400 cfs. Please note that the 211,000 cfs flow reported yesterday for the Ohio River was in error.

Groundwater levels declined in 12 of the 27 daily monitoring wells, primarily in the Susquehanna River basin.

The extended weather forecast for eastern Pennsylvania calls for mostly cloudy conditions with a chance of snow showers Thursday night and Friday, and a chance of snow flurries Saturday. The long-range outlook for the next six to ten days calls for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. In western Pennsylvania, scattered snow flurries are predicted from Wednesday through Saturday.

