

# Watershed MANAGEMENT



## Drought Information Center

**February 18, 1999**

Precipitation during the past 24 hours was concentrated most heavily in the eastern third of the state, where totals were in the 0.25-0.9 inch range, with lighter rain in the 0.05-0.35 inch range across the southern tier. Little or no precipitation was recorded in the northwestern counties. Elsewhere, totals were less than 0.05 inch.

Stream flows in the Delaware River basin show little change from yesterday at many gages, with the noticeable changes being mixed, both up and down. The Delaware main stem flows are up slightly in the upper basin, but down from 13,100 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 12,500 cfs at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River at Hawley is down from 518 to 477 cfs, the Lehigh River at Bethlehem is down from 2650 to 2550 cfs, while the Schuylkill River is up at Reading, Pottstown and Philadelphia, with the Philadelphia gage reading 3190 cfs this morning, compared to 2380 cfs yesterday. Brandywine Creek at Chadds Ford is up from 228 to 272 cfs. Flows remain above normal, except in the Christina watershed.

In the Susquehanna River basin, flows in the upper basin are up slightly, with the Wilkes-Barre gage reading 17,300 cfs, compared to 17,100 yesterday. The Lackawanna River at Old Forge is unchanged at 489 cfs. West Branch flows are mixed, but generally up slightly in the upper watershed above Williamsport. The Lewisburg gage is down from 12,400 to 12,200 cfs. Juniata watershed flows are generally up slightly as well above Lewistown, but down from 2850 to 2570 cfs at Newport. Lower basin tributaries are also up somewhat, as indicated by the Conestoga River at Conestoga, up from 416 to 582 cfs. Stream flows continue above normal; although more small headwater streams have declined to below-normal levels.

In the Ohio River basin, Allegheny River flows are also up in the upper watershed above Franklin but down from 29,600 to 24,000 cfs at Natrona. Upper Allegheny tributaries are generally up, as reflected by French Creek at Utica, reading 2860 compared to 2440 cfs yesterday. Lower Allegheny tributaries declined. The Kiskiminetas River at Vandergrift is down from 2200 to 2190 cfs. Monongahela watershed flows are changed little, except for the lower main stem at Braddock, up from 8730 to 10,700 cfs. Beaver River watershed flows are little changed as well, with the river at Beaver Falls down from 5340 to 5120 cfs. The Ohio River at Sewickley is up only marginally from 37,000 to 37,200 cfs. Flows remain well above normal, except in the Monongahela watershed.

Ground water data is not available this morning.

The three-day forecast indicates 0.1-0.5 inches of precipitation in the southeastern counties, mostly

occurring today, with little or no precipitation throughout most of the state. The five-day forecast adds nothing, while the 6-10 day forecast adds about 0.25-0.5 inch in the northern tier and 0.5-1.0 inch in the remainder of the state.