

# Watershed MANAGEMENT



## Drought Information Center

**November 22, 1999**

There was light precipitation over most of Pennsylvania since last Friday. Average amounts totaled about one-tenth inches except for the westernmost third of the state. Amounts for this part of Pennsylvania averaged perhaps two-tenths of an inch, with even slightly higher totals to the northwest.

Streams in the Delaware River Basin show mostly mixed and relatively steady flow conditions over the past three days. The mainstem Delaware River and streams in the Lackawaxen River Basin are the exceptions with slight flow recession trends, while the Schuylkill River Basin has slight flow enhancements. The Delaware River is down from 4,710 to 4,450 cfs. at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River is holding fairly even from 119 to 121 cfs. at Hawley. The Lehigh River at Bethlehem is steady at 1,260 cfs. The Schuylkill River is up from 1,060 to 1,190 cfs. at Philadelphia and the Brandywine Creek is up from 192 to 204 cfs. at Chadds Ford. About 90% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at below normal flow for today's date.

Susquehanna River Basin gauges have held fairly constant since Friday. Mixed changes were seen in the West Branch Susquehanna River Basin. The main stem Susquehanna River shows slight flow recessions, while gauges in the Conestoga River Basin show slight enhancements. The mainstem Susquehanna River is down from 2,680 to 2,630 cfs. at Towanda, down from 3,900 to 3,750 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre and down from 9,030 to 8,790 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is down from 814 to 761 cfs. at Lock Haven, down from 1,670 to 1,560 cfs. at Williamsport and down from 2,110 to 2,030 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River is down from 1,330 to 1,300 cfs. at Newport and the Conestoga River is up from 251 to 272 cfs. at Conestoga. About 95% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at below normal flow for November 22.

The Ohio River Basin shows an assortment of trends since November 19. Somewhat more than half of the streams in the Basin show an enhancement trend, while flow recessions are seen in French Creek and Conewango Creek Basins. Streams in the Oswayo Creek, Redbank Creek, Crooked Creek, Buffalo Creek and Chartiers Creek Basins are holding somewhat even. There are mixed gauge changes in the Kiskiminetas River Basin and on the mainstem Allegheny River. The Allegheny River is down from 5,290 to 3,980 cfs. at Natrona. The mainstem Ohio River is up from 7,070 to 8,220 cfs. at Sewickley. The Kiskiminetas River is down from 530 to 255 cfs. at Vandergrift. The Monongahela River is down from 2,720 to 2,570 cfs. at Braddock and the Beaver River is up from 990 to 1,080 cfs. at Beaver Falls. Almost all stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at below normal flow for this date.

Since November 19, 27 counties with monitoring wells show a water level rise for five counties and drops for 21. The reading for Warren County is unchanged. Increases range from 0.02 to 0.16 ft. with

an average rise of 0.07 ft. Decreases range from 0.02 to 3.97 ft. (Pike County) with an average drop of 0.42 ft.

Over the next four days, precipitation totaling less than a quarter-inch is expected over all but western and southwestern counties. For the period November 26 through December 1, somewhat over a half-inch of precipitation is forecast for Pennsylvania, with lighter amounts likely in the west and southwest. Temperatures for the next ten days are expected to be above normal.