

# Watershed MANAGEMENT



## Drought Information Center

January 13, 2000

From January 10 to 12 there was light to moderate precipitation in Pennsylvania. The western half of the state received an average of about 0.3 inches total precipitation while the eastern half might have averaged about 0.7 inches. During the past 24-hour period, Fayette/Westmoreland and Susquehanna Counties received average precipitation amounts of possibly 0.15 and 0.25 inches respectively.

In the Delaware River Basin, streams are showing an enhancement trend since Monday. The mainstem Delaware River is up from 6,630 to 13,800 cfs. at Trenton. The Lackawaxen River up from 235 to 552 cfs. at Hawley. The Lehigh River is up from 1,550 to 2,650 cfs. at Bethlehem. The Schuylkill River is up from 1,620 to 3,240 cfs. at Philadelphia and the Brandywine Creek is up from 293 to 344 cfs. at Chadds Ford. About 80% of the stream gauges in the Delaware River Basin are at above normal flow for January 13.

Compared to January 10, all major streams in the Susquehanna River Basin are in the flow enhancement category. The mainstem Susquehanna River is up from 10,800 to 22,500 cfs. at Towanda, up from 15,100 to 27,800 cfs. at Wilkes-Barre, and up from 28,700 to 38,300 cfs. at Harrisburg. The West Branch Susquehanna River is up from 4,290 to 5,080 cfs. at Lock Haven, up from 6,440 to 8,320 cfs. at Williamsport, and up from 7,510 to 10,100 cfs. at Lewisburg. The Juniata River is up from 1,750 to 2,400 cfs. at Newport and the Conestoga River is up from 353 to 474 cfs. at Conestoga. About 70% of the stream gauges in the Susquehanna River Basin are at above normal flow for this date.

The Ohio River Basin shows several flow trends compared to three days ago. The most common trend seems to be slight flow recession; streams with more notable recessions include Pine Creek Basin, Chartiers Creek Basin, Beaver River Basin and Raccoon Creek Basin. Kiskiminetas Creek Basin and the Monongahela River Basin show mixed gauge changes. Streams with flow enhancements include Conewango Creek Basin, Brokenstraw Creek Basin, Oil Creek Basin, French Creek Basin and Redbank Creek Basin. The Allegheny River is down from 27,500 to 23,600 cfs. at Natrona. The mainstem Ohio River is down from 32,600 to 30,000 cfs. at Sewickley. The Kiskiminetas River is down from 1,550 to 1,100 cfs. at Vandergrift. The Monongahela River is up from 4,390 to 6,250 cfs. at Braddock and the Beaver River is down from 4,910 to 3,630 cfs. at Beaver Falls. About 60% of the stream gauges in the Ohio River Basin are at above normal flow for today's date.

Since January 10, 27 counties with monitoring wells show water level rises for 21 counties and drops for six. Increases range from 0.02 to 2.48 ft. (Pike County) with an average rise of 0.80 ft. Decreases range from 0.02 to 1.21 ft. (Huntingdon County) with an average fall of 0.34 ft.

Between 0.5 and 1.0 inches total precipitation is forecast for all of Pennsylvania over the next five days, with slightly higher amounts along the Ohio border, and slightly lower amounts for southeastern counties. For the period January 18 to 23, slightly over an inch total precipitation can be expected for most of the Commonwealth, with total amounts possibly exceeding 1.50 inches for southeastern counties. Temperatures for the next ten days are expected to be close to normal.