

Watershed MANAGEMENT



Drought Information Center

December 29, 1998

Some light and widely scattered precipitation occurred across the Commonwealth last evening and overnight, but it will have no significant impact on existing drought conditions.

Stream flows in the Susquehanna River basin are generally holding steady over the entire watershed. River flow at Marietta is up slightly from yesterday as the last remnants of the December 21 precipitation event works its way through the river system. Ohio River flows are also generally stable with small increases in flow being recorded in both the Allegheny and Monongahela watersheds. Delaware River Basin flows are holding steady with little change in flow being recorded in either the Lehigh or Schuylkill Rivers from yesterday.

Ground water levels have shown little appreciable change over the last week.

Light precipitation is expected to fall over most of Pennsylvania today and tonight, but it is not expected to produce any noticeable improvement in drought conditions. Statewide temperatures will turn sharply colder by tomorrow and unfrozen ground will freeze rapidly, decreasing the potential for ground water recharge in the immediate future.

On January 5, the Delaware River Basin Commission will be conducting a public hearing in Trenton, New Jersey to seek comments regarding a possible drought emergency declaration.

No requests for conservation release decreases from impoundment owners were received yesterday, and no additional public water purveyors reported having significant supply problems.