



Drought Information Statement for the Philadelphia/Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area

Valid January 2, 2024

Issued By: NWS Philadelphia/Mount Holly

Contact Information: wfophi.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated February 2, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/phi/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





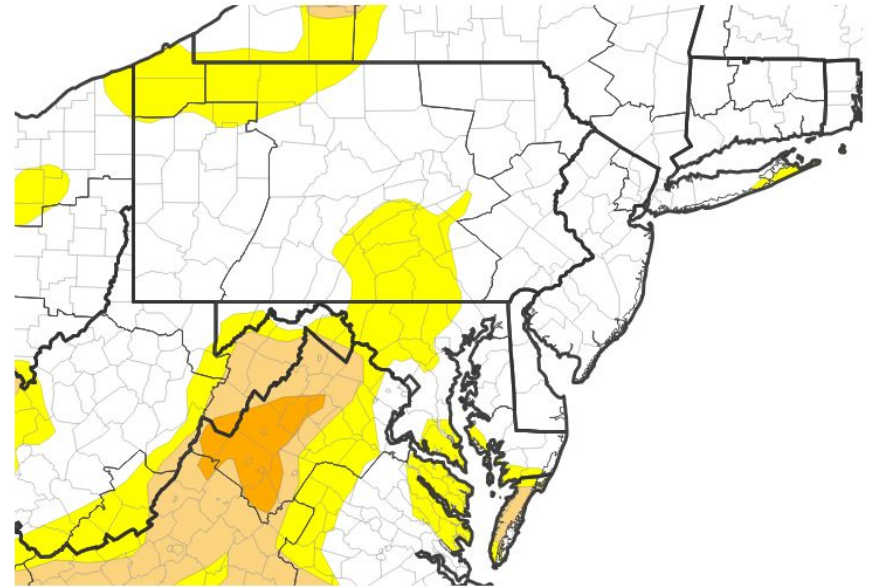
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Philadelphia/Mt Holly Forecast Area

Drought intensity and extent per the U.S. Drought Monitor...

- D4 Exceptional Drought: No Exceptional Drought exists across the Mt. Holly Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
- D3 Extreme Drought: No Extreme Drought exists across the Mt. Holly HSA.
- D2 Severe Drought: No Severe Drought exists across the Mt. Holly HSA.
- D1 Moderate Drought: No Moderate Drought exists across the Mt. Holly HSA.
- D0 Abnormally Dry: There are no Abnormally Dry designations across the Mt. Holly HSA.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/26/23



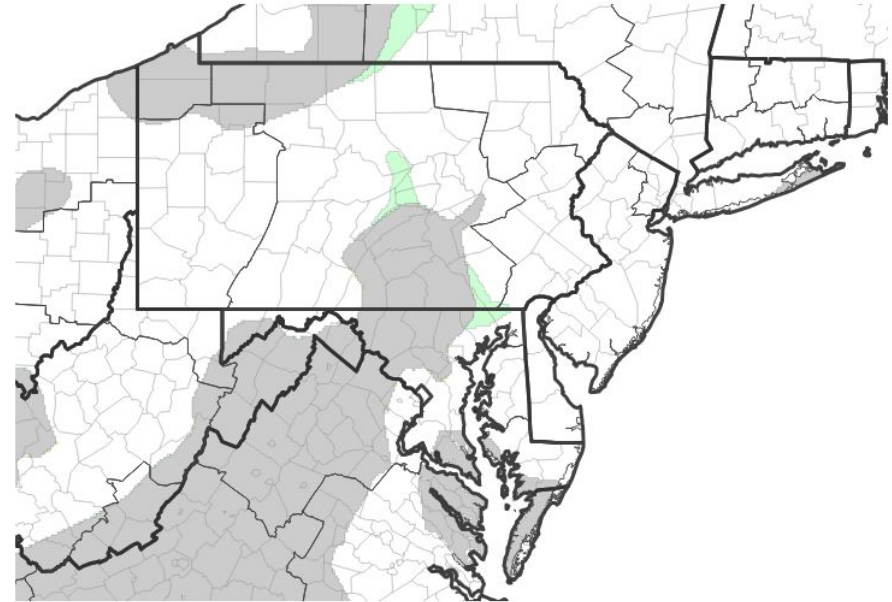


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

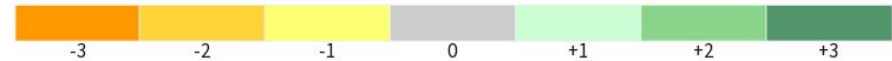
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt Holly Forecast Area

- A Four Week change map can be accessed from the link above.
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change...
 - Drought Worsened: No degradation was observed.
 - No Change: Just about all the HSA remained unclassified from last week. As a result, there was very little change to measure this week. Outside of a one-category improvement over extreme southwest Chester County, no changes were observed.
 - Drought Improved: Over a very small area in southwest Chester County.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/26/23



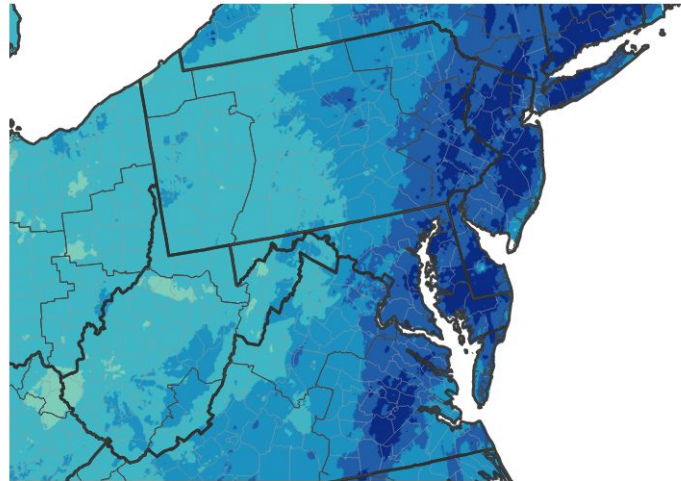


Precipitation

Last 30 Days

- Just about our entire HSA has seen a rainfall surplus over the last 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

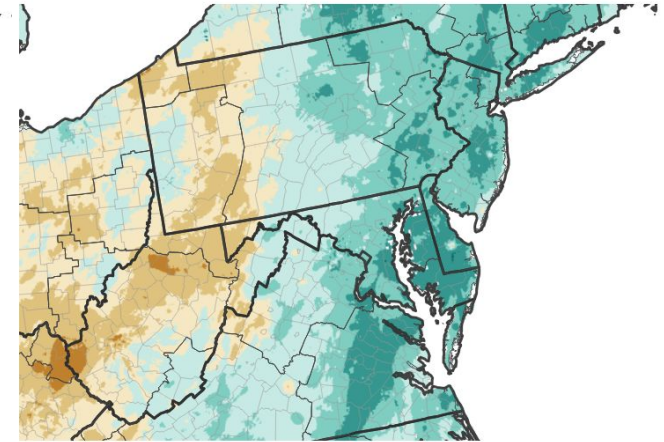


Inches of Precipitation

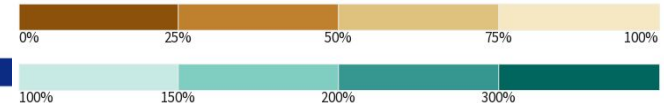


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Last Updated: 01/02

Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 01/02/24

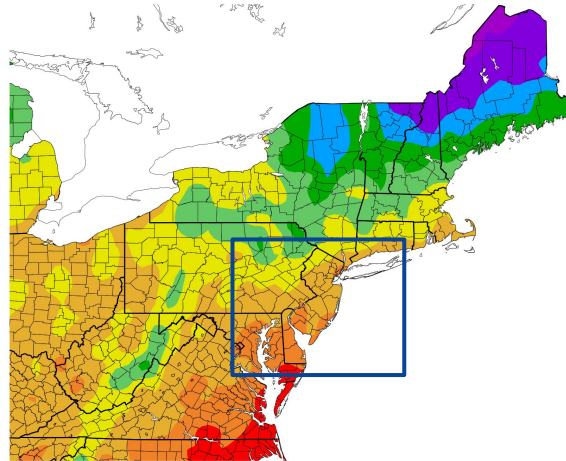




Temperature

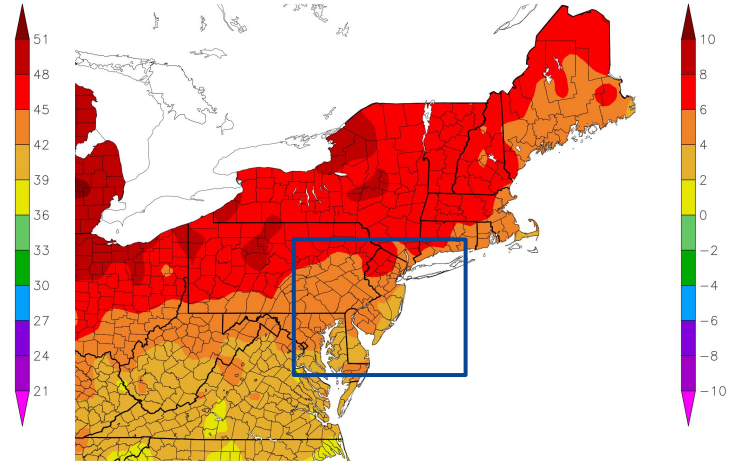
- Over the last month, temperature departures across the HSA were between 0.0 and +7.0 degrees.

Temperature (F)
12/4/2023 - 1/2/2024



Generated 1/3/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/4/2023 - 1/2/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers /2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Seven-day average streamflow conditions, ending 1/2, were normal to much above normal.
- See the next slide for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture was running above normal to much above normal.
- See slide 8 for more details.

Other Impacts

- Per the PA DEP (Department of Environmental Protection), groundwater recharge has been very slow across the southeastern portion of the state and is the impetus for their Drought Watch.
- Per state DEPs, most reservoir pools across the HSA were normal.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of January 2nd, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile marker 54. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 69. This means the salt line was further downstream compared to normal.

Drought Mitigation Actions

- Per the state of Pennsylvania, a Drought Watch or Warning remains in effect for counties across the central and southeastern portion of the state.
- Keep in mind, the National Weather Service does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.

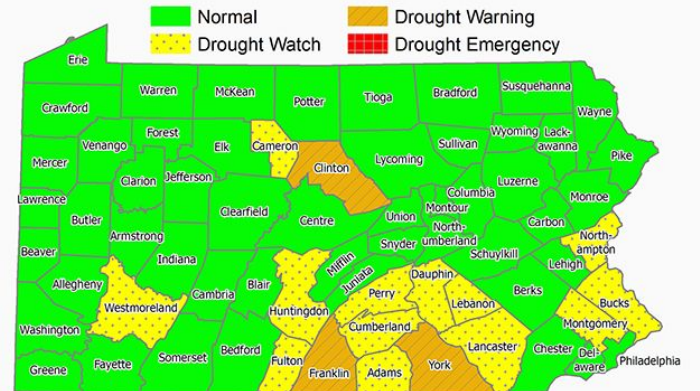


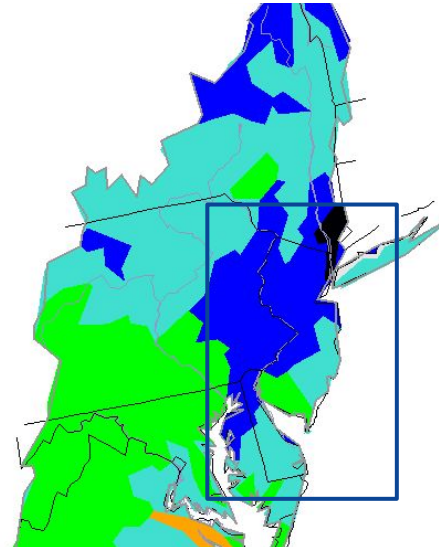
Image Captions: [PA Drought Declaration Status](#) valid 12/22/2023





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- With the recent rain, the seven-day average streamflow conditions, ending 12/2, were normal to much above normal.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: HUC map [USGS 7 day streamflow for the Mid-Atlantic](#) valid January 2, 2024

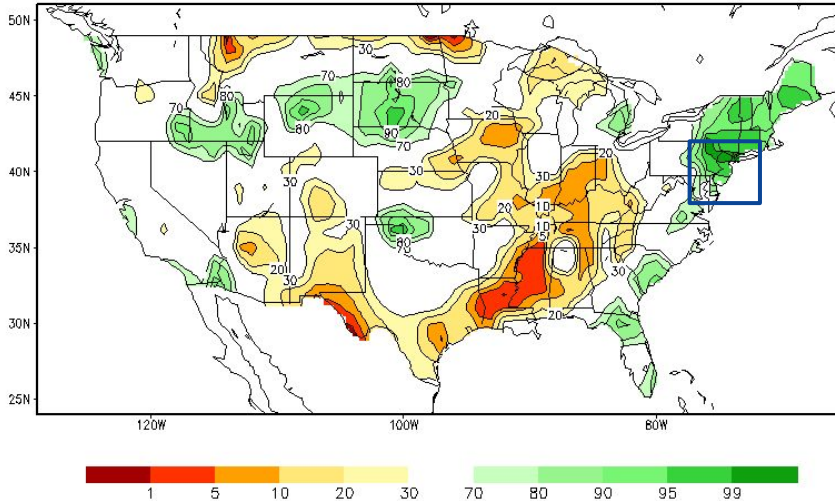




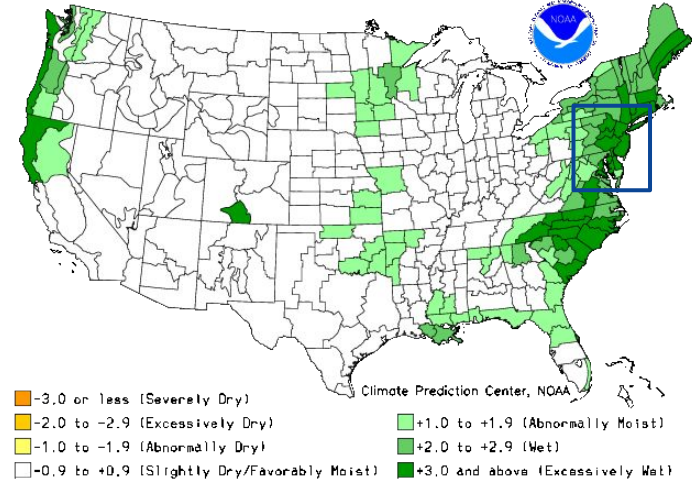
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture was running normal to much above normal across most of the HSA.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JAN 02, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending DEC 30, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

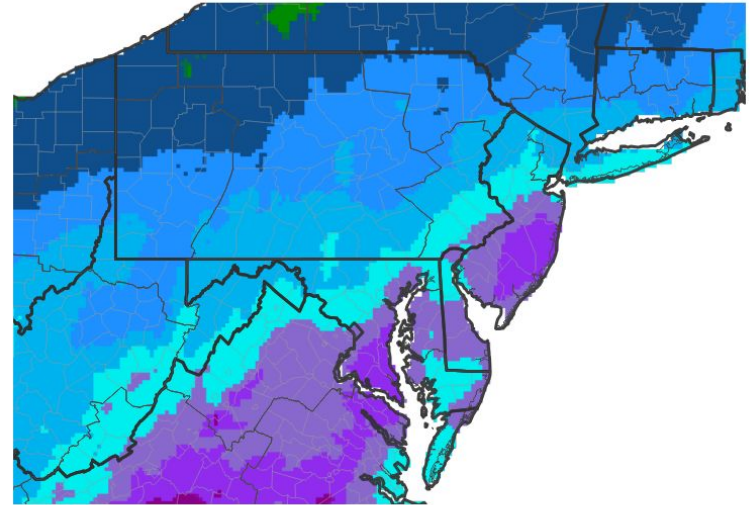




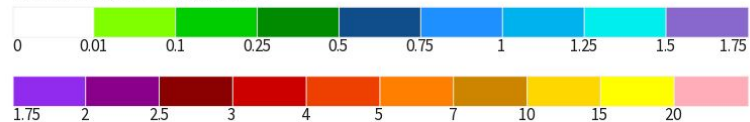
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- High pressure will remain in control through today. A weak system will pass offshore Thursday with high pressure returning for the end of the week. A more organized system will traverse the eastern US this weekend, bringing rain and snow. High pressure will move in for the end of the weekend and start of next week. Another strong system will move into the region for the middle of next week.
- The 8 to 14 day outlook calls for above normal temperatures and precipitation.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/02/24

