



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

Valid October 21, 2024

Issued By: NWS Philadelphia/Mt. Holly

Contact Information: wfphi.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated November 22, 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.
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- The state of New Jersey has issued a Drought Watch for the entire state.
 - The state of Maryland has issued a Drought Watch for the Eastern Shore.



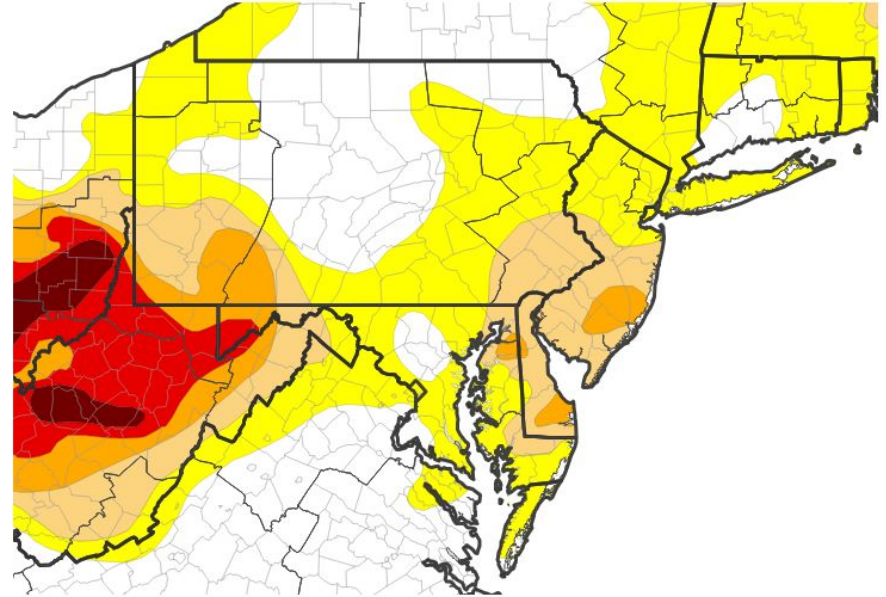


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No Exceptional Drought exists across the Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: No Extreme Drought exists across the HSA.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Severe Drought exists across portions of southern New Jersey and the Delmarva.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Moderate Drought exists across southeast Pennsylvania, central and southern New Jersey, and across most of the Delmarva counties we serve.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: The entire forecast area is at least considered Abnormally Dry.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/17/24



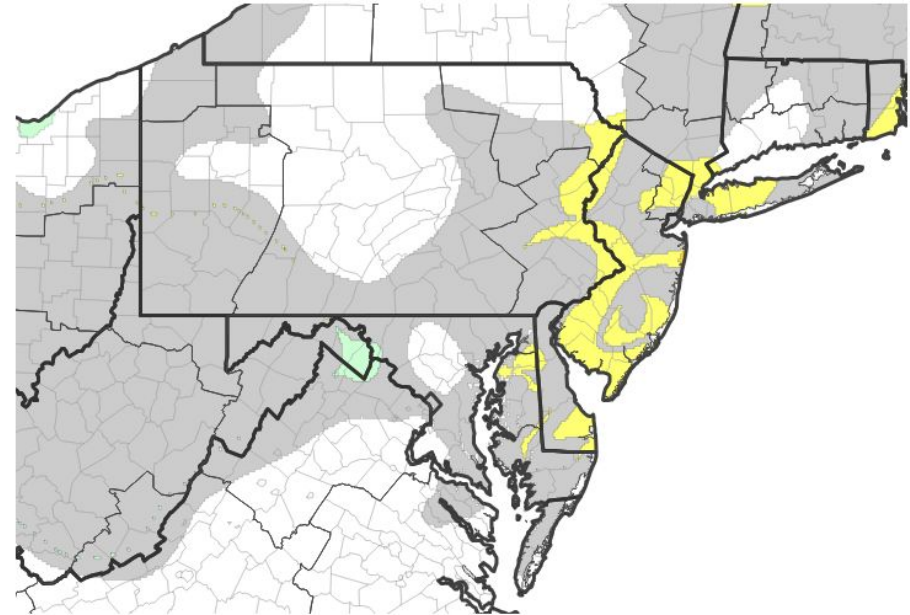


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

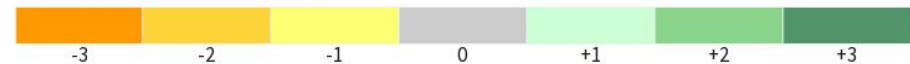
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Philadelphia/Mt Holly Forecast Area

- A Four Week change map can be accessed from the link above.
- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change...
 - Drought Worsened: Across portions of east-central and southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Delmarva.
 - No Change: If drought didn't worsen, conditions remained the same across portions of east-central and southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Delmarva.
 - Drought Improved: No improvement was observed.

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: 10/15/24



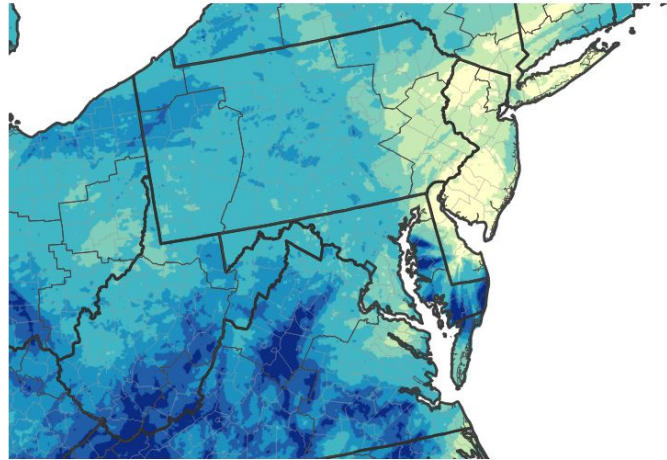


Precipitation

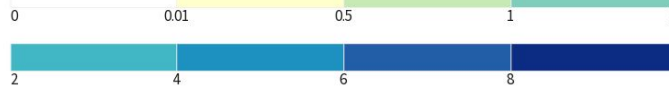
Last 30 Days

- The entire HSA has seen a rainfall deficits over the last 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



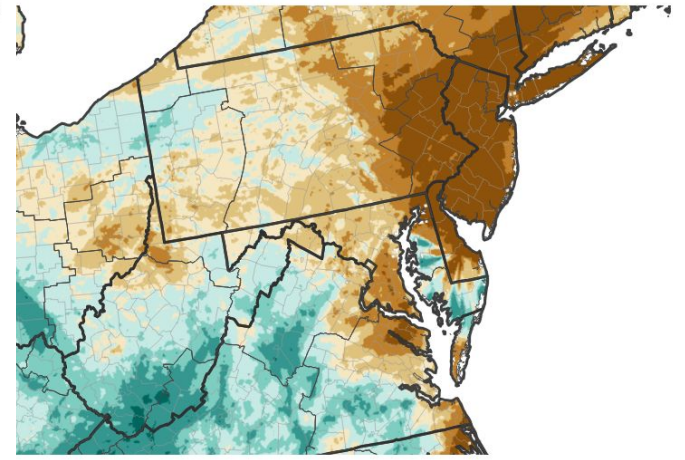
Inches of Precipitation



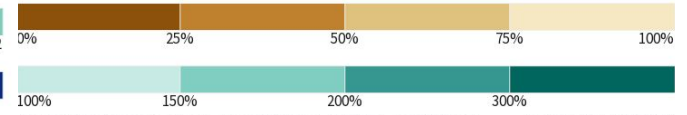
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/20/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Last Updated: 10/20/24

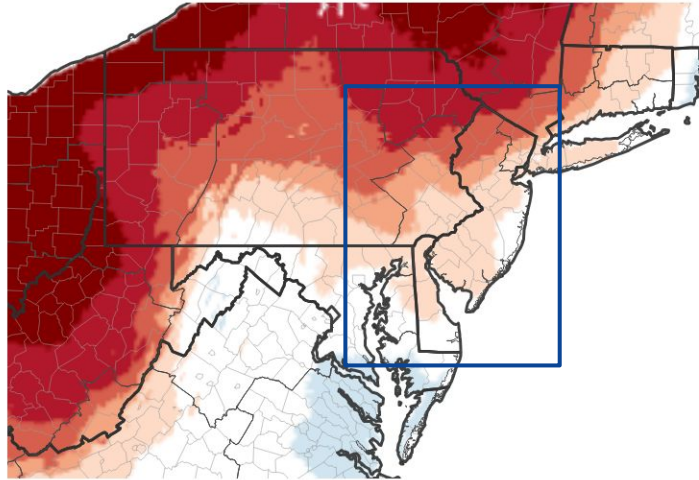




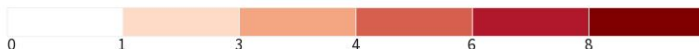
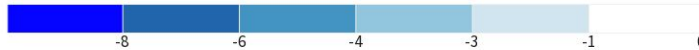
Temperature

- Much of the region has seen above normal temperatures the last 7 days.
- Over the last 30 days, temperatures have been close to normal.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



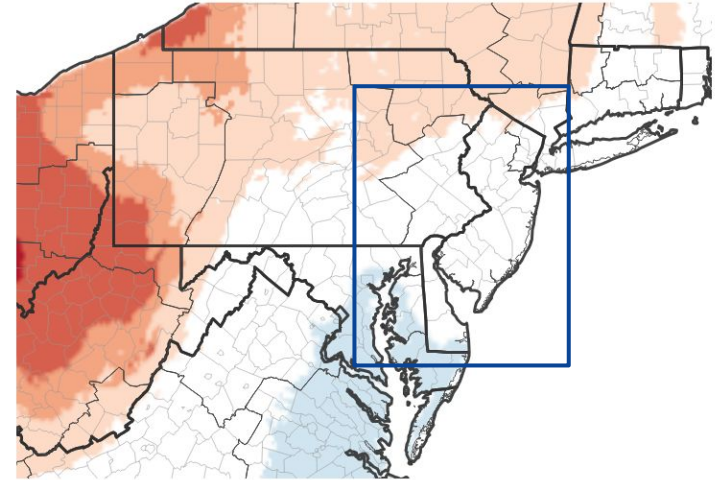
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 09/23/24

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 09/23/24





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 10/21, were mainly below normal.
- See the next slide for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

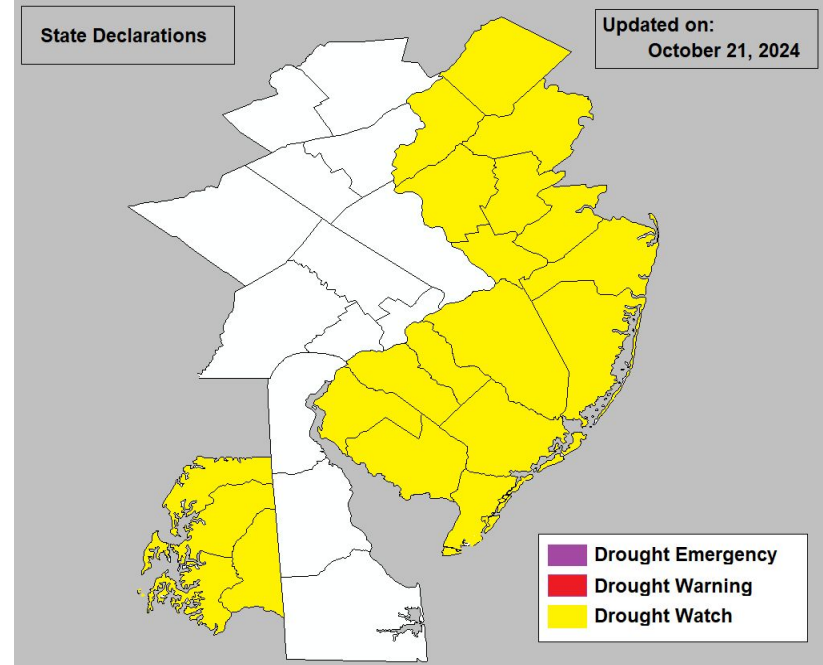
- Soil moisture was running below normal.
- See slide 8 for more details.

Other Impacts

- Per state DEPs, most reservoir pools across the HSA were either normal or slightly below.
- Per the Delaware River Basin Commission, and as of October 2nd, the salt front in the Delaware River Estuary was estimated at river mile 82. The normal location for this time of year is river mile marker 72. This means the salt line was further upstream compared to normal.

Mitigation Actions

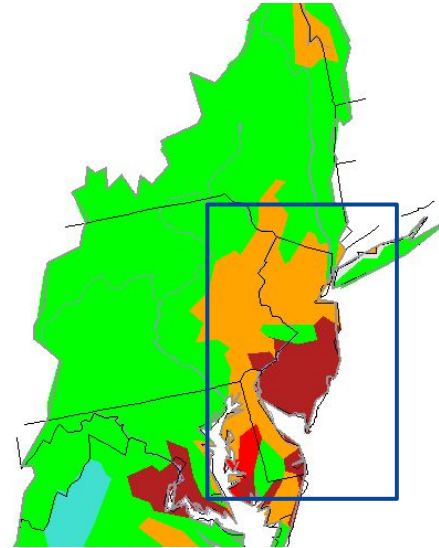
- Per the state of New Jersey, a Drought Watch for been issued for the entire state.
- Per the state of Maryland, a Drought Watch for been issued for the Eastern Shore.
- Keep in mind, the National Weather Service does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- With the lack of recent rain, the seven-day average streamflow conditions, ending 10/21, were mainly below 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 October 21, 2024

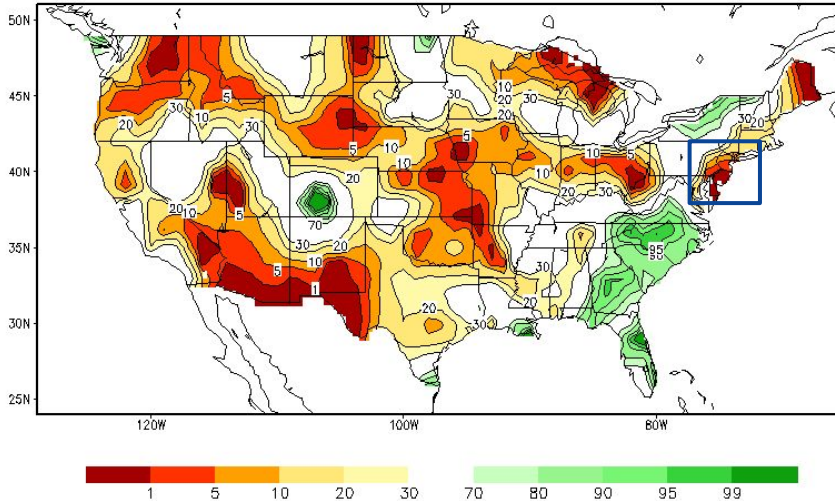




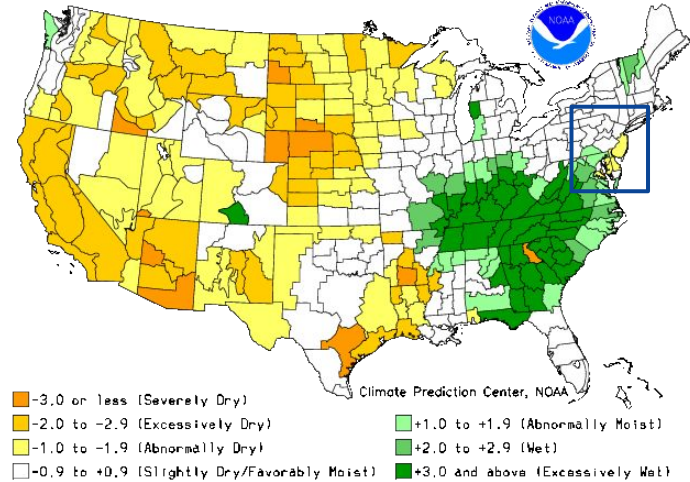
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture was running below normal across the HSA.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 20, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 12, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

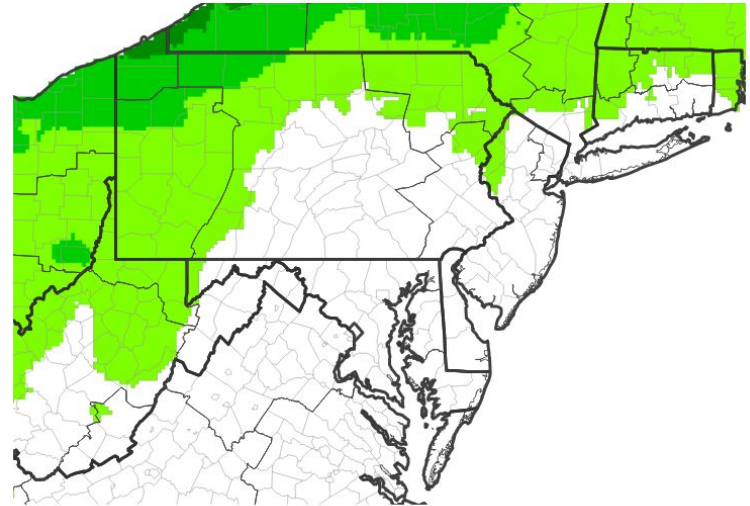




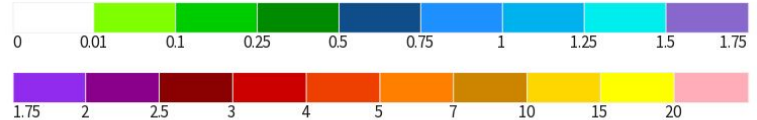
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- High pressure will remain across our area before weakening and shifting offshore Tuesday into Wednesday. A strong, but mainly dry, cold front will cross our area Wednesday night into early Thursday morning. Sprawling high pressure will then build in for Thursday and Friday before another cold front comes in on Saturday. High pressure is forecast to build in for the back half of the weekend.
- The 8 to 14 day outlook calls for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 20, 2024-October 27, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/20/24

