



# Drought Information Statement

for southeast Ohio, northeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia, and much of West Virginia

Valid November 21, 2024

Issued By: NWS Charleston, WV

Contact Information: [rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:rlx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated December 2, 2024
  - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
  - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/RLX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- 
- Much needed rain brings more drought improvement across central and southern WV



# Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor

## Main Takeaways

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** Improvement across parts of central WV
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Improvement across parts of southeast OH and western WV
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Improvement across metro I64 corridor
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Improvement across the Coal Fields
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Slight improvement across parts of northeast KY

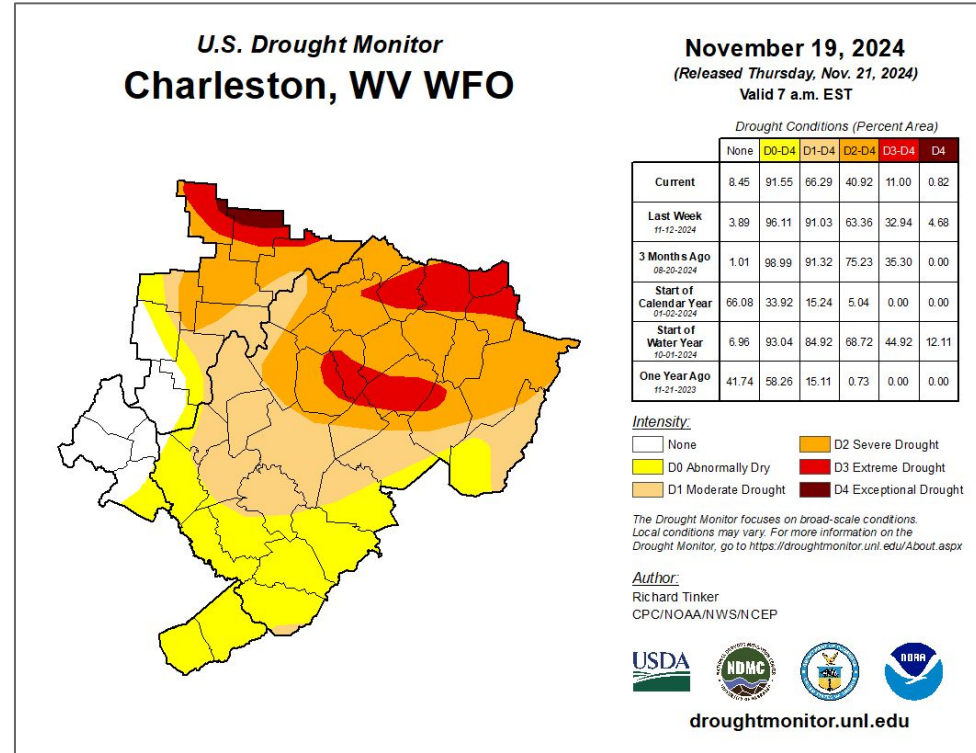


Image Caption: Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/) valid 8am EDT November 21, 2024





# Current Drought Conditions

Latest Drought Monitor Four-Week Change

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change**

- **Drought Worsened:** Southwest VA
- **No Change:** Areas of southeast northeast KY, OH and WV
- **Drought Improved:** Large areas of southeast OH and WV

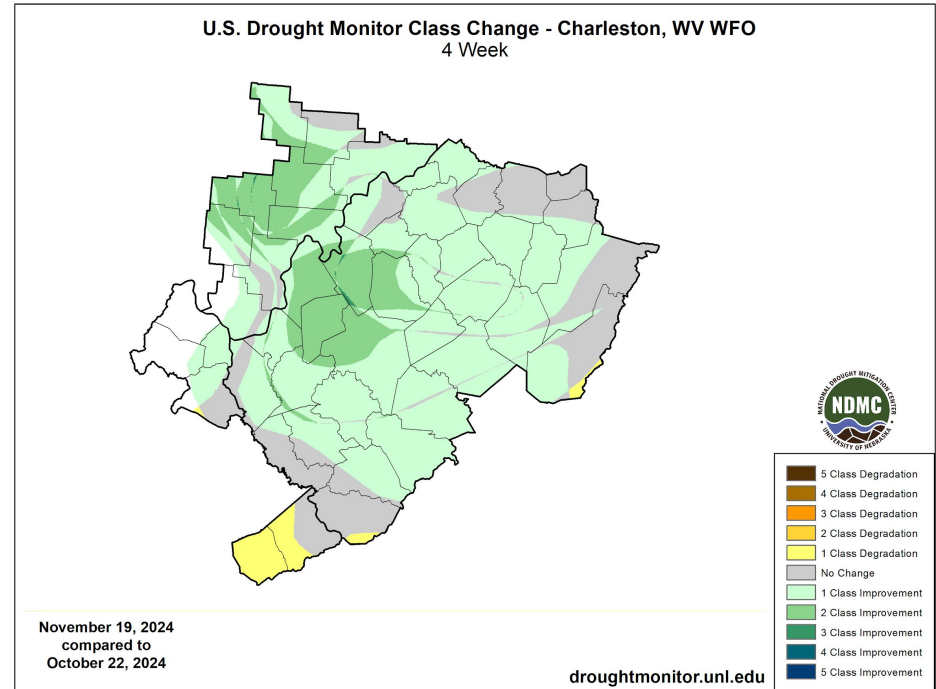


Image Caption:

Right: [U.S. Drought Monitor 4 week change valid 8am EDT November 14, 2024](#)



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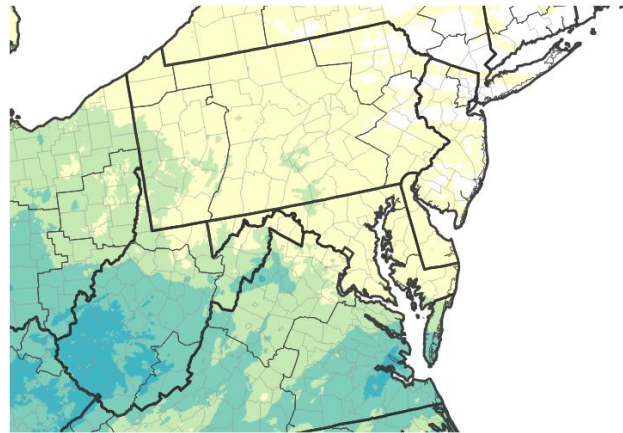
# Observed Precipitation

## Latest 7 Rainfall and 30-Day Percent of Normal Rainfall

### Main Takeaways

- Another week of beneficial rains in the northeast KY, southeast OH, southern half of WV
- Significant long term rainfall deficits continue across the mountains

7-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



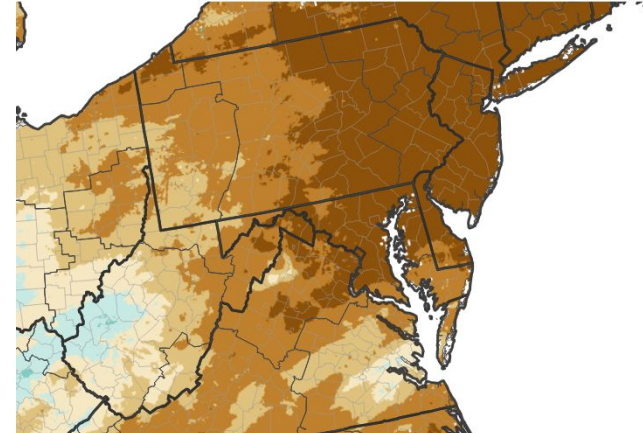
Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 11/21/24

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

### Image Caption:

Left - 7 Day Precipitation Amount for Mid Atlantic  
Right - 30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for Mid Atlantic  
Data Courtesy NWS National Water Prediction Service  
ending November 21, 2024





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- 7-day average streamflows showing further improvement across the area
- Water levels in residential and agricultural recharging across northeast KY and southern WV

## Agricultural Impacts

- Near surface soil moisture has recovered across much of the area
  - Dry signal persists in deeper soil profiles
- Hay shortage remains with supplemental feeding needed for winter in parts of southeast OH and WV

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger low

## Mitigation Actions

- None reported





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

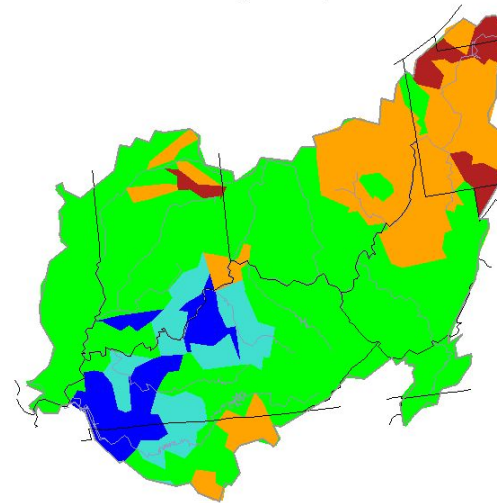
## Main Takeaways

- Improving conditions across many basins over the last 7 to 14 days
- Groundwater wells remain low across most areas

## Impacts

- Most reservoir lakes releases for winter drawdown delayed until mid December due to the extraordinary low summer pools
  - Lower flow in the Little Kanawha than otherwise would be expected

Hednesday, November 20, 2024



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked



VA and WV Groundwater Levels and Trends

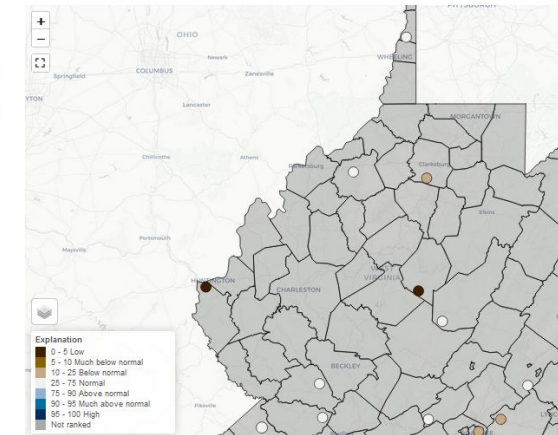


Image Caption:

Left - USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC maps valid November 20, 2024

Right - USGS groundwater wells valid November 21, 2024



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# Agricultural Impacts

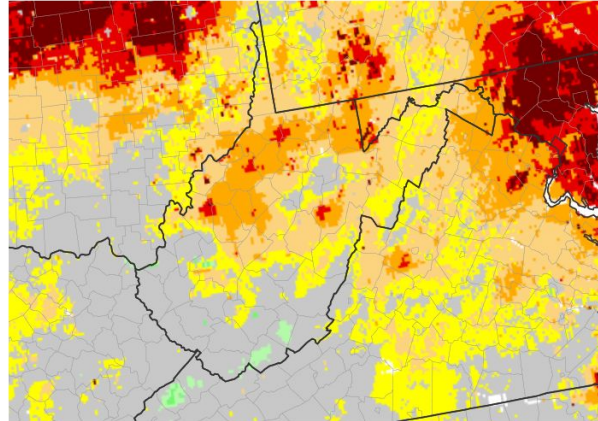
## Main Takeaways

- Topsoil recovery noted from recent rains especially southeast OH, northeast KY, and southern WV
- Much of the area remains dry in deeper soil profiles

## Impacts

- Hay shortage remains with supplemental feeding needed for winter

0-100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



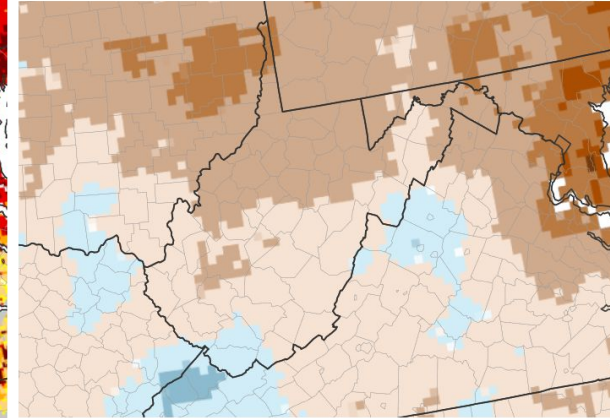
0-100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



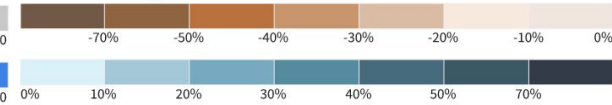
Source(s): NASA  
Data Valid: 11/21/24

Drought.gov

Crop-CASMA Subsoil (3 Feet) Soil Moisture Anomaly



Soil Moisture Anomaly



Source(s): NASA  
Data Valid: 11/15/24

Drought.gov

## USDA Crop Progress and Condition Weekly Reports

[West Virginia](#)  
[Virginia](#)

[Ohio](#)  
[Kentucky](#)

## Image Captions:

Left: 0-100 cm soil moisture percentile valid November 21, 2024  
Right: CASMA subsoil moisture percentile valid November 15, 2024





# Fire Hazard Impacts

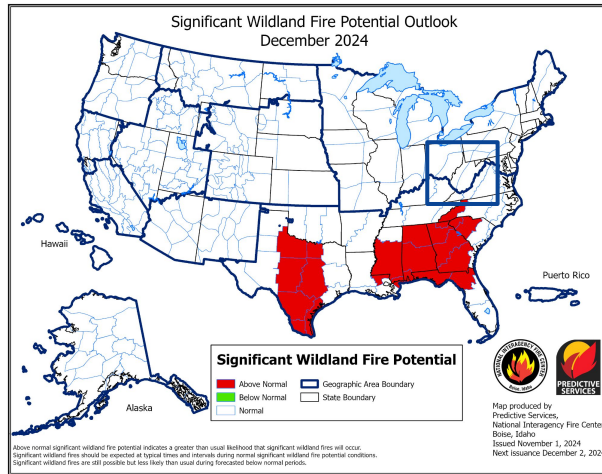
Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

## Main Takeaways

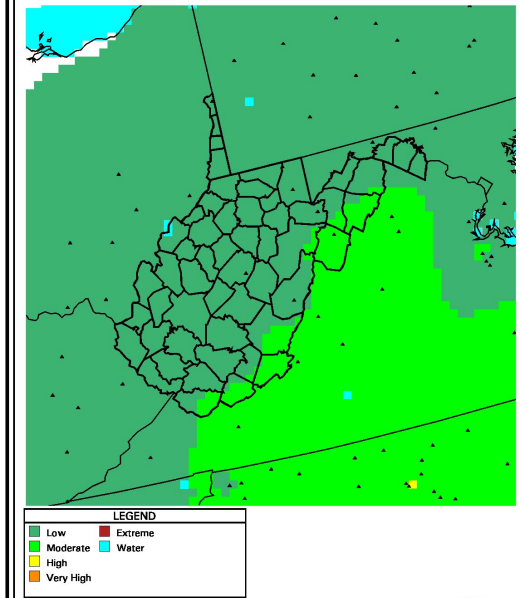
- Low fire danger threat for the foreseeable
- Significant wildfire outlook is normal for December

## Impacts

- No current impacts



West Virginia Forecast Fire Danger Class: 22-NOV-24



FireLab



WFAS-MAPS National Interagency Fire Center



Image Captions:

Left: Significant Wildland Fire Potential monthly outlook valid December, 2024

Right: Area fire danger class, valid November 22, 2024



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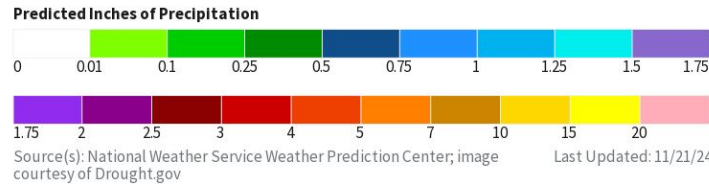
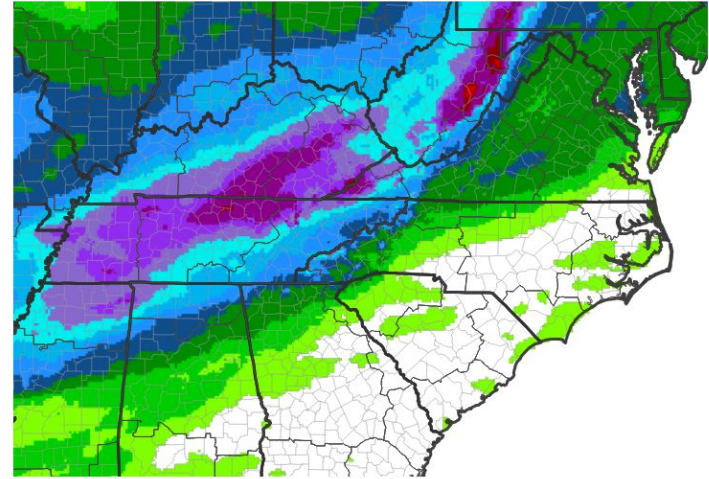


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

## Next 7 days:

- Lingering low pressure brings heavy snow across the mountains and snow/rain in the lowlands through late Friday
- Weak high pressure builds in by Sunday and lingers Monday
- Next cold front sweeps through Tuesday with another bout of rain
- Potential for a much wetter system around Thanksgiving

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for November 21, 2024–November 28, 2024



**Image Caption:**  
Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid November 21, 2024





# 8-14 Day Outlook

## Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

### Main Takeaways

- Below normal temperatures favored with above normal precipitation favored
- Active pattern with systems crossing about every 3 days

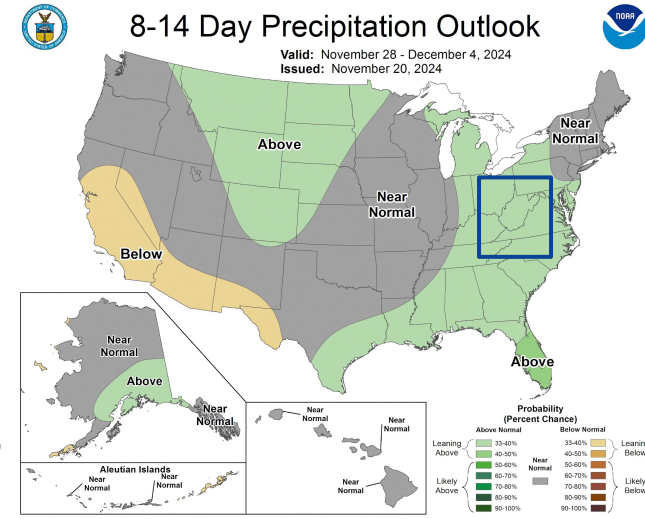
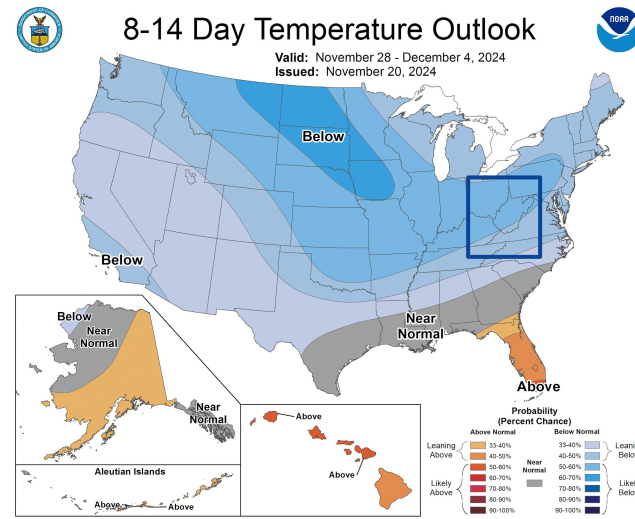


Image Captions: Climate Prediction Center 8-14 day temperature and precipitation outlook valid November 20, 2024



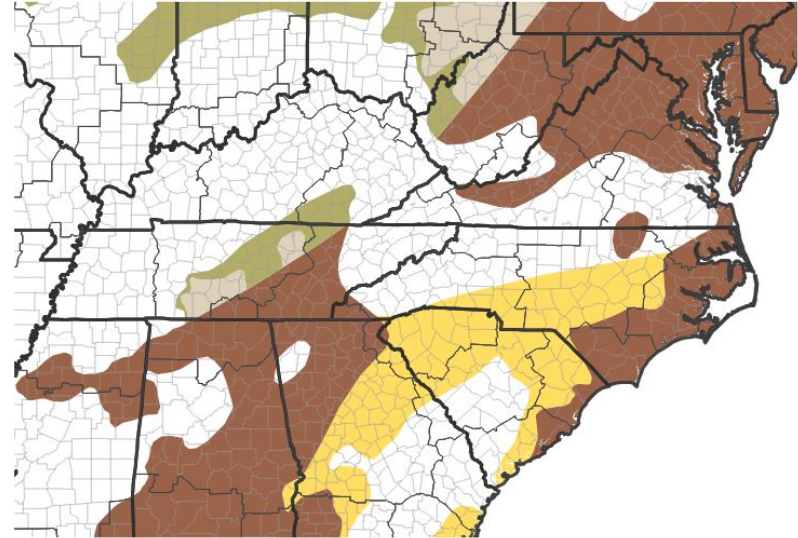
# Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

## Main Takeaways

- Favors drought remaining but improving across WV lowlands and southeast OH but ends elsewhere

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for November 21, 2024–February 28, 2025



### Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/21/24

**Image Caption:**  
 Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released November 21, 2024  
 Valid November 21, 2024 - January 21, 2024

