
News Release

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

Address:
Maryland-Delaware-D.C. District
8987 Yellow Brick Road
Baltimore, MD 21237

Email and Homepage:
wsmcpher@usgs.gov
<http://md.water.usgs.gov/>

Release:
August 6, 2001

Contact:
Wendy S. McPherson

Phone:
(410) 238-4255

Fax:
(410) 238-4210

High and Low Water Levels in July

Streamflow levels varied greatly across Maryland and Delaware in July as a result of localized precipitation events according to hydrologists at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Baltimore, Maryland. Streamflow at the Choptank River near Greensboro, Maryland, was 124 percent above normal and during this first week of August, the Potomac River near Washington, D.C., has had above average streamflow because of recent rainfall.

In other areas, such as Deer Creek near Rocks in Harford County streamflow was 48 percent below normal, and streamflow entering the Chesapeake Bay averaged 23.0 bgd (billion gallons per day) in July, which is 37 percent below the long-term average for July (see graphs at <http://md.water.usgs.gov/monthly/bay.html>).

Ground-water levels in water-table wells at the end of July were mostly in the normal range for Delaware and Maryland except for the northern central counties of Maryland from Harford County to Washington County (see graphs at <http://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/>). Ground-water levels in water-table wells typically decrease in the summer, but the lack of rainfall in these areas has made the water levels lower than normal.

As the Nation's largest water, earth and biological science, and civilian mapping agency, the USGS works in cooperation with more than 2,000 organizations across the country to provide reliable, impartial scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers. This information is gathered in every state by USGS scientists to minimize the loss of life and property from natural disasters, contribute to the sound conservation and the economic and physical development of the Nation's natural resources, and enhance the quality of life by monitoring water, biological, energy, and mineral resources.

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