
News Release

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U.S. Geological Survey

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Streamflow Still Low in Maryland

Streamflow across Maryland and Delaware ranged from 58 percent below normal at the Potomac River near Washington, D.C., to 26 percent below normal for Choptank (is this the Eastern Shore and Delaware???) according to hydrologists at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Baltimore, Maryland. The National Weather Service reports below average rainfall in January, with only 2.68 inches at BWI (-.37 inches below normal 88%). The average streamflow into the Chesapeake Bay was also reduced to 23.9 bgd (billion gallons per day), which is 58 percent below the long-term average (see graphs at <http://md.water.usgs.gov/monthly/bay.html>). (not updated yet, right? Check these-so far, level is normal).

Storage in the Baltimore reservoir system decreased in January (from 97 percent) and is currently at 85 percent of capacity. Ground-water levels (expected seasonal decrease) and are generally in the normal range for Maryland and Delaware. Monthly updates of ground-water conditions for 32 key observation wells that are representative of all counties of Maryland and Delaware can be found at <http://md.water.usgs.gov/groundwater/>. The hydrographs have been updated for the period of record and now show extremes in addition to the normal range.

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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