

RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Prepared for Waterways Association Meeting 9/18/2013
 National Weather Service Forecast Office, Pittsburgh PA
 For the latest river and weather forecasts--<http://www.weather.gov/pittsburgh>

WEATHER RECAP

August temperatures were close to normal and but precipitation varied greatly over the hydrologic service area. Rainfall over the Cheat, Youghiogheny and Conemaugh was 200% to 300% of normal for August. Areas receiving only 50 percent of normal rainfall for the month included the Pittsburgh area, and the Beaver River basins.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Aug 2013 Precipitation</i>	<i>Departure (Inches)</i>
Pittsburgh	1.78	-1.70

<i>Location</i>	<i>Aug Average Temperature</i>	<i>Departure degrees</i>	<i>Extreme High</i>	<i>Extreme Low</i>
Pittsburgh	70.7	-0.8	86(Aug 30)	47(Aug 15)

RIVER CONDITIONS RECAP

Widespread areal flooding occurred on August 28 in the eastern areas of the Hydrologic Service Area with 16 areal flood warnings issued during the month. Repeated heavy rains occurred across the counties of Venango, Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland and Fayette in Pennsylvania, and Preston and Tucker counties in West Virginia and Garrett county Maryland. Localized rainfall amounts in the above areas of 4 to 6 inches of rain occurred, with some locations receiving more rainfall than they did during Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

There were sharp river rises of 5 to 10 feet on Cheat, Youghiogheny and Conemaugh Rivers after the August 28th rainfall. The resulting flows into the Monongahela River caused rises of 3 to 5 feet along the lower Monongahela. River flows/velocities remained well above normal for this time of the year. Army Corp of Engineers reservoir levels at projects such as Conemaugh Lake, Crooked Creek Lake, Loyalhanna Lake, Tygart Lake and Youghiogheny Lake were at some of the highest summer levels in over 5 years.

HIGH WATER POTENTIAL

Flows on the Allegheny are 180% of normal, the Monongahela 160%, and the Ohio 120% of normal. A minimum of 2.00-2.25 inches basin wide rainfall in 6 to 12 hours is needed to bring rivers to bank full. High water potential is near normal.

Below normal rainfall and near normal temperatures are expected through much of September. There will be rain this weekend with as 1.00 to 1.50 inches possible, then it looks like a more of the dry conditions for the rest of the month. The expected rainfall through Oct 4 is between 2.00 and 3.00 inches.

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY	SATURDAY NIGHT	SUNDAY
								
Mostly Sunny High: 72 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 54 °F	Slight Chc Thunderstorms High: 77 °F	Slight Chc Showers Low: 62 °F	Chance Thunderstorms High: 80 °F	Showers Likely Low: 64 °F	Showers Likely High: 74 °F	Chance Showers Low: 57 °F	Mostly Cloudy High: 72 °F

8-14 Day Outlook... Above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

30 Day Outlook... Near normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

Sep-Oct-Nov Outlook... Near normal temperatures and precipitation

Nov-Dec-Jan Outlook... Above normal temperatures and normal precipitation

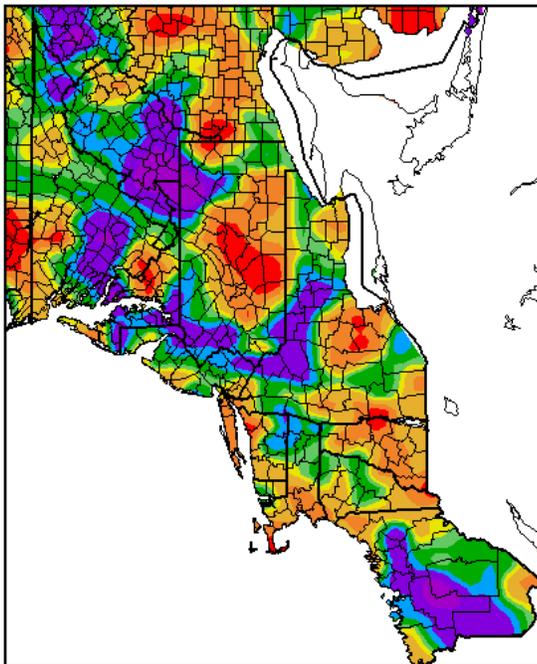
Jan-Feb-Mar Outlook... Above normal temperatures and normal precipitation

Average Yearly rainfall Pittsburgh: 38.19 inches **So far in 2013:** 27.09 inches (Departure -1.46)

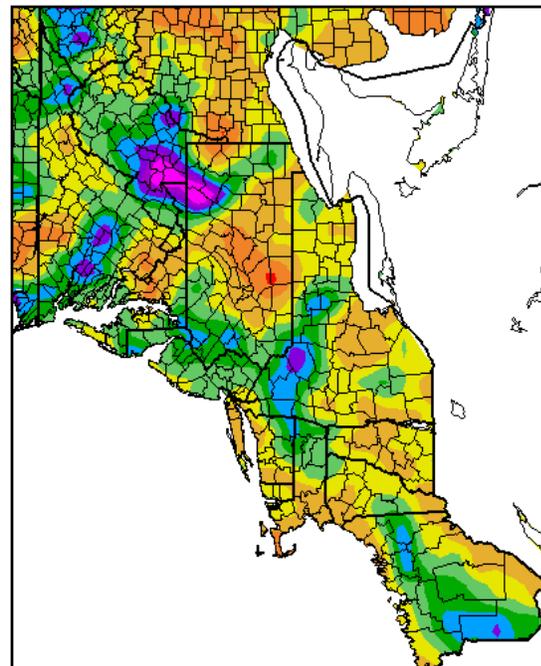
Totals for: 2012: 41.74 inches; 2011: 44.24 inches; 2010: 37.85 inches

September 18, 2004 - 31 feet

RESERVOIR	FLOOD STORAGE CAPACITY USED
Allegheny	0%
Tionesta	2%
Union City	0%
Woodcock	1%
East Branch	8%
Mahoning	1%
Crooked Creek	2%
Conemaugh	1%
Loyalhanna	3%
Stonewall Jackson	0%
Tygart	0%
Yough	0%
Michael J. Kirwan	7%
Berlin	10%
Lake Milton	10%
Mosquito	9%
Shenango	0%



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/1/2013 - 8/31/2013



Precipitation (in)
8/1/2013 - 8/31/2013



WEATHER HISTORY:

Nine years ago (Sep 17, 2004) Pittsburgh had the greatest daily rainfall ever when we received 5.94 inches in one day from Hurricane Ivan. Just nine days earlier we received the second greatest ever in one day 3.60 inches from Hurricane Frances. Those back to back hurricanes cause historic flooding in many areas around the region

TROPICAL OUTLOOK: Through early October conditions will not be favorable for tropical moisture moving into the Pittsburgh area.