



# Drought Information Statement for Central Pennsylvania

Valid **March 27, 2026**

Issued by: National Weather Service State College

Contact Information: [ctp.stormreports@noaa.gov](mailto:ctp.stormreports@noaa.gov)

- The next update to this Drought Information Statement will be issued by **April 10, 2026**.
  - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
  - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/CTP/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
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- Recent rainfall has produced short-term improvement across central Pennsylvania, although long-term dryness persists across the south-central counties.
  - The Climate Prediction Center's seasonal drought outlook calls for continued improvement and the likely removal of much of the lingering drought by early Summer.

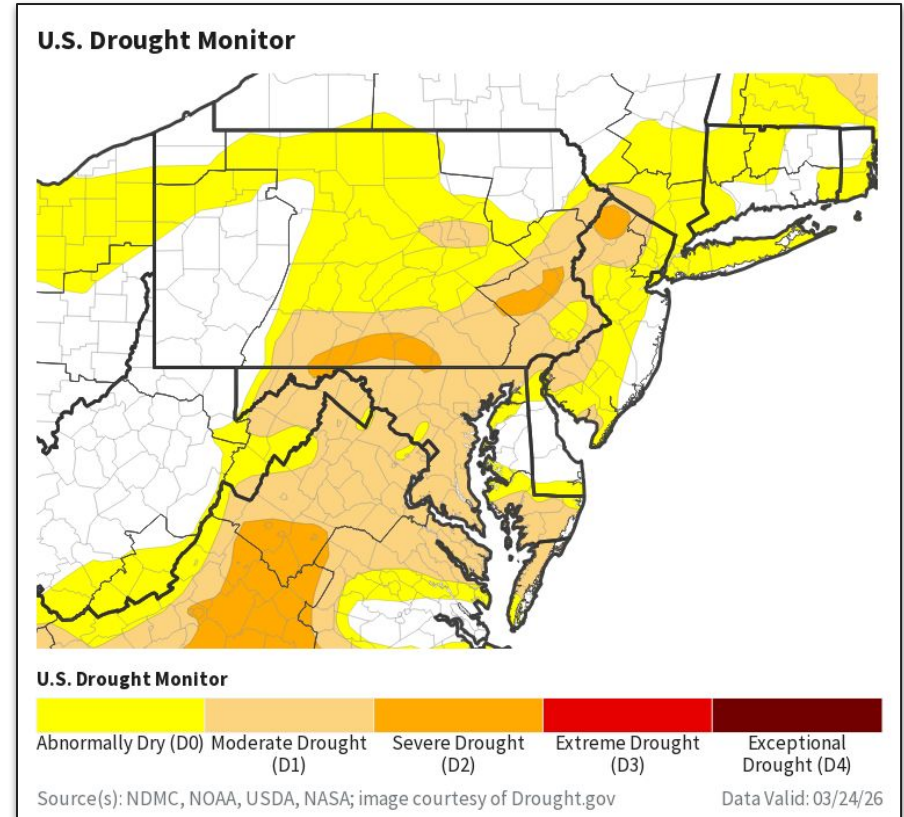




# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought Intensity and Extent for Central Pennsylvania:
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Bedford, Fulton, Franklin, Adams
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Union, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Schuylkill, Huntingdon, Dauphin, Lebanon, Somerset, Cumberland, York, Lancaster
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):** Warren, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Sullivan, Elk, Cameron, Clearfield, Clinton, Lycoming, Centre, Snyder, Cambria, Blair, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry

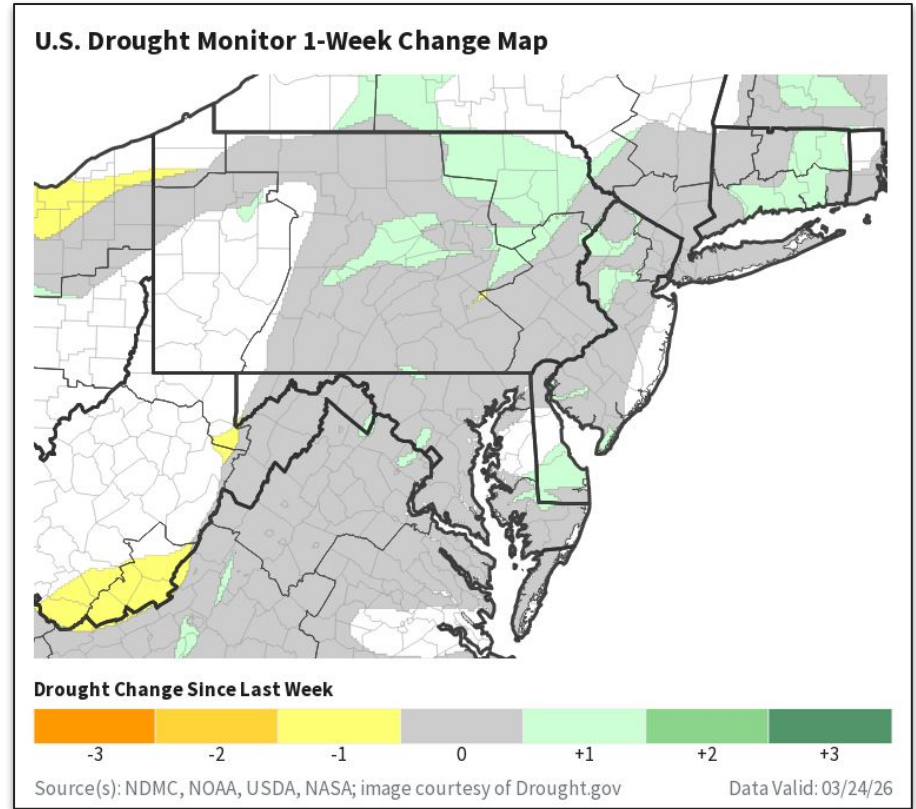




# One-Week Change in Drought Intensity

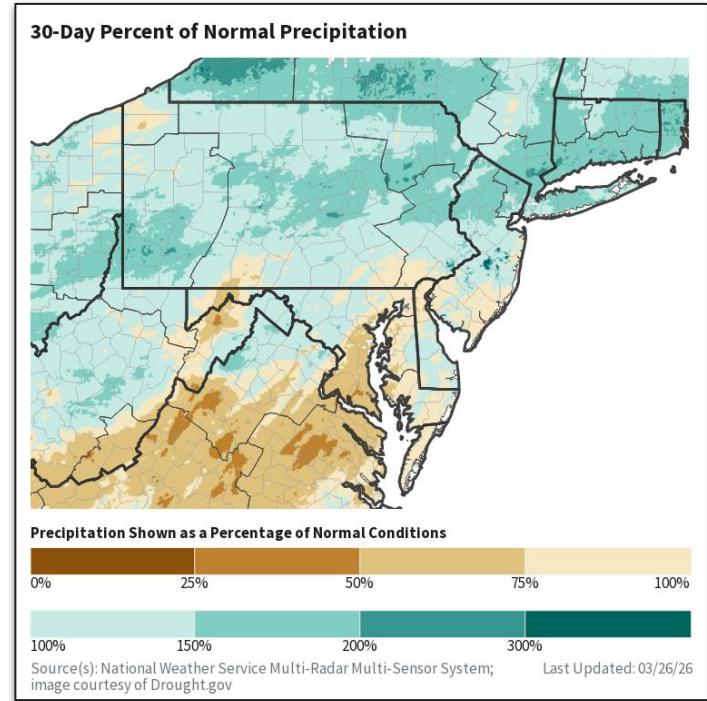
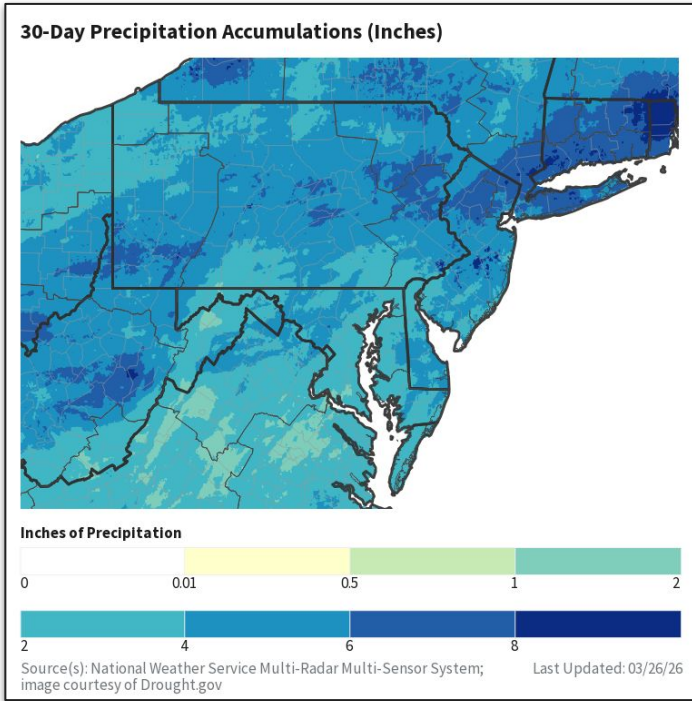
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - Continued improvement was noted across portions of central and northeastern Pennsylvania.





# 30-Day Precipitation and Percent of Normal

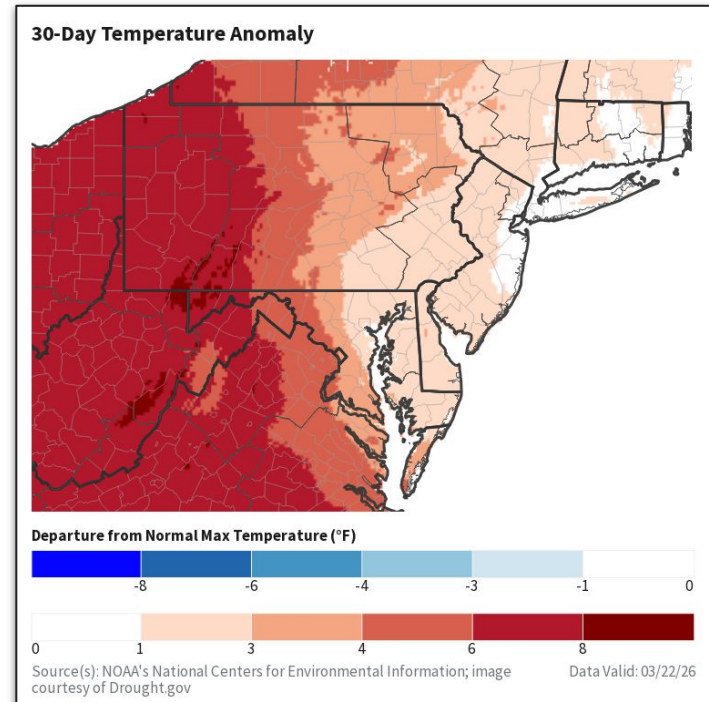
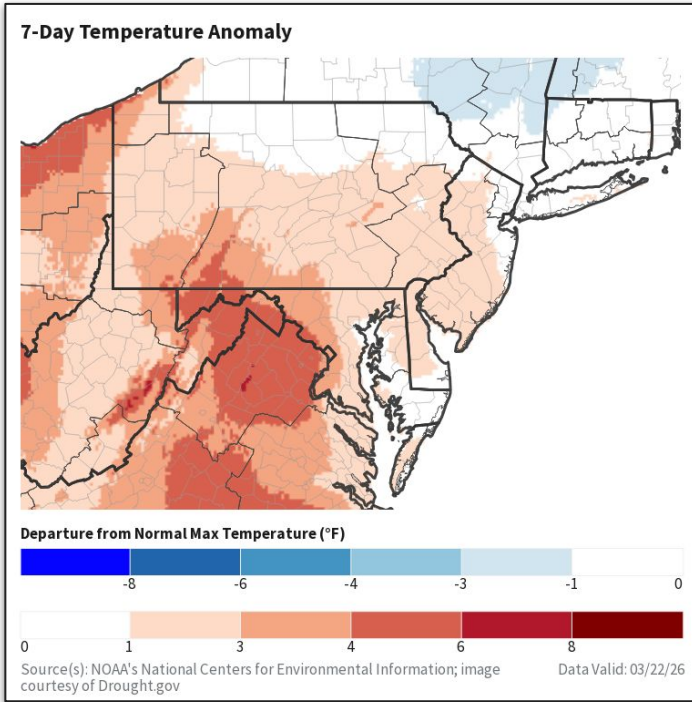


- 30-day precipitation was above average across most of central Pennsylvania from late February through late March 2026.





# 7-Day & 30-Day Temperature Anomalies



- 7-day temperature anomalies were near to slightly above average across central Pennsylvania, while 30-day anomalies were above to well above average.





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Snow cover and river ice have melted across central Pennsylvania. Precipitation has increased recently and helped with the short-term dryness, although long-term precipitation deficits across south-central PA.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture ranged from near to above average across north-central Pennsylvania to below average across far south-central Pennsylvania. See slide 8 for details on regional soil moisture.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- The significant wildfire potential outlook remains near average across Pennsylvania for March 2026. See slide 9 for a map and details.

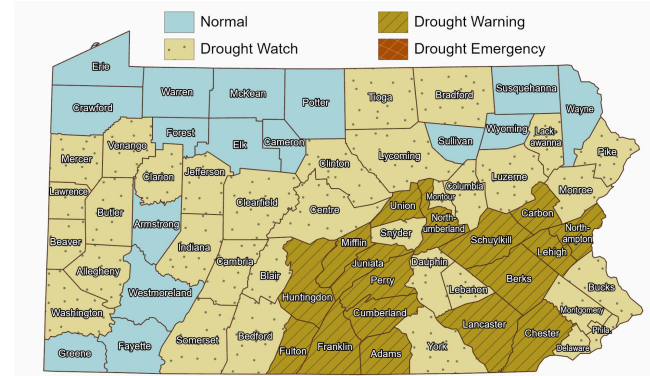
## Other Impacts

- As of March 23, 2026, there were no countywide burn bans in effect across Pennsylvania.

## Mitigation Actions

- There are both voluntary and mandatory water restrictions in place for some communities across central Pennsylvania. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

## Latest PA drought designations:



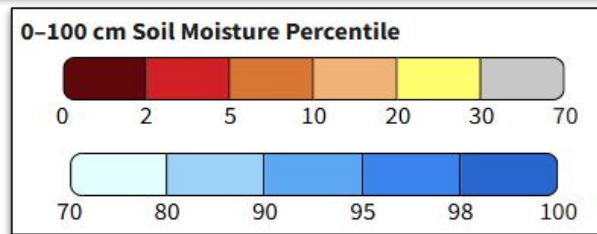
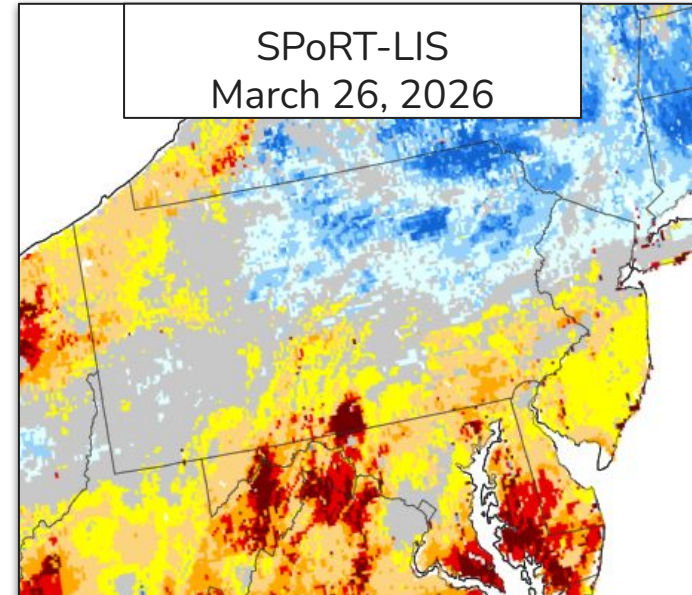
The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has issued a Drought Watches and Warnings for several central Pennsylvania counties. (The NWS does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.)





# Agricultural Conditions

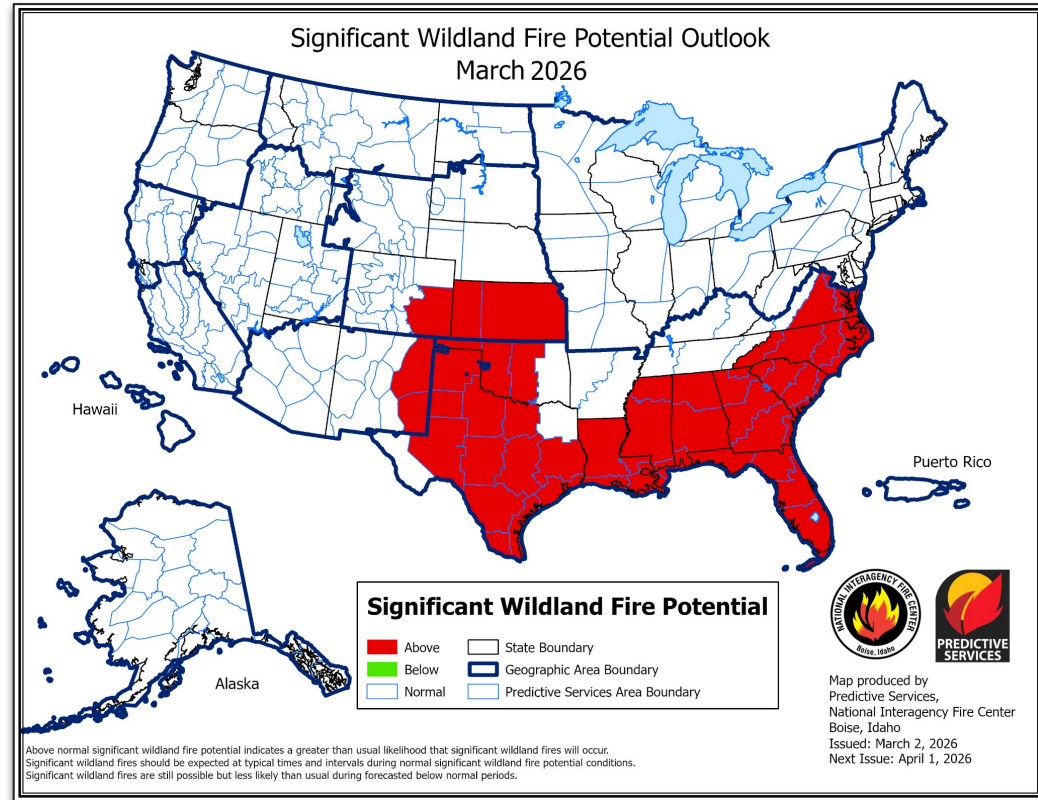
- Soil moisture ranged from near to above average across north-central Pennsylvania to below average across far south-central Pennsylvania.





# Fire Hazard Impacts

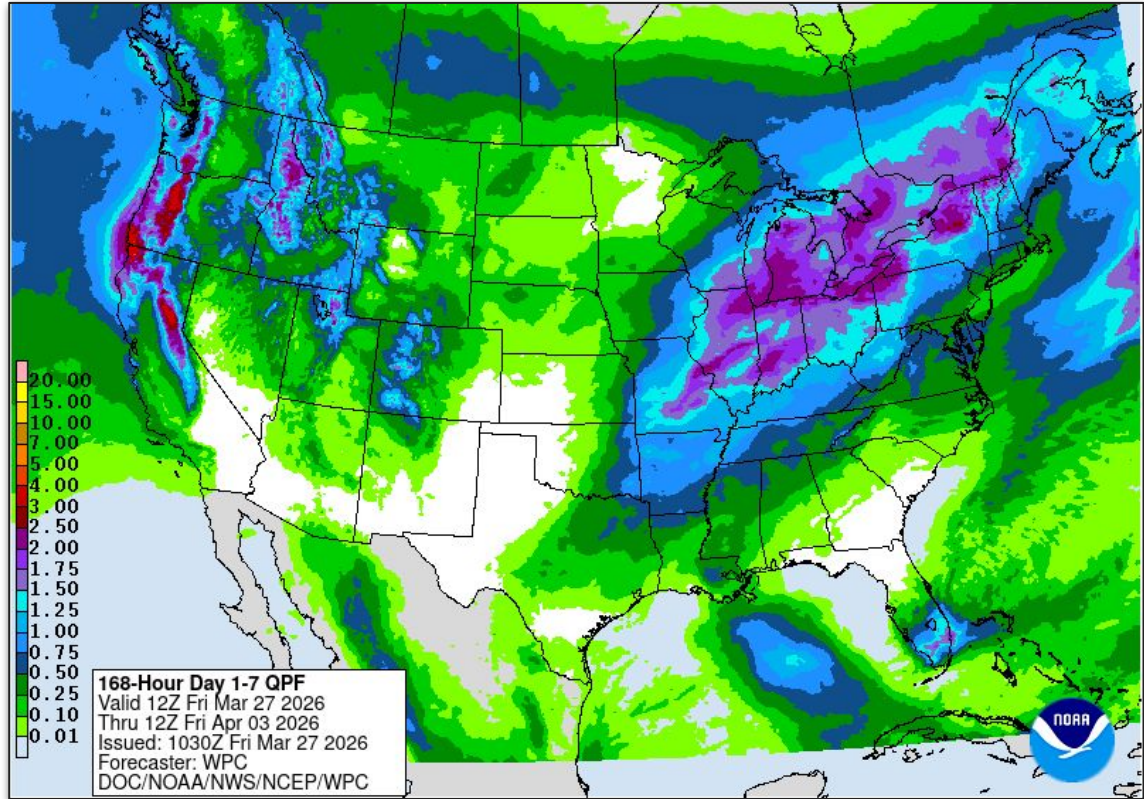
- The significant wildfire potential outlook remains near average across Pennsylvania for March 2026.





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

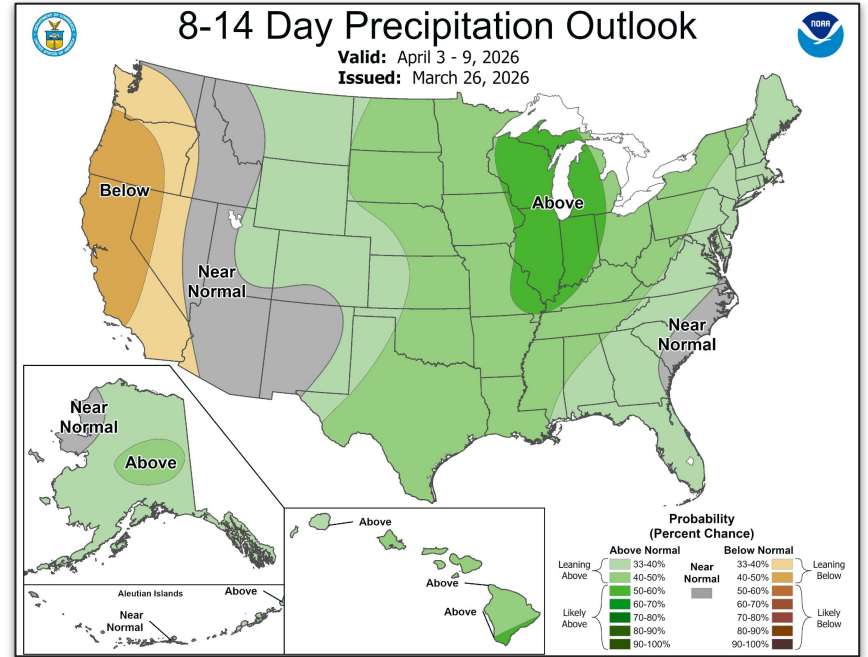
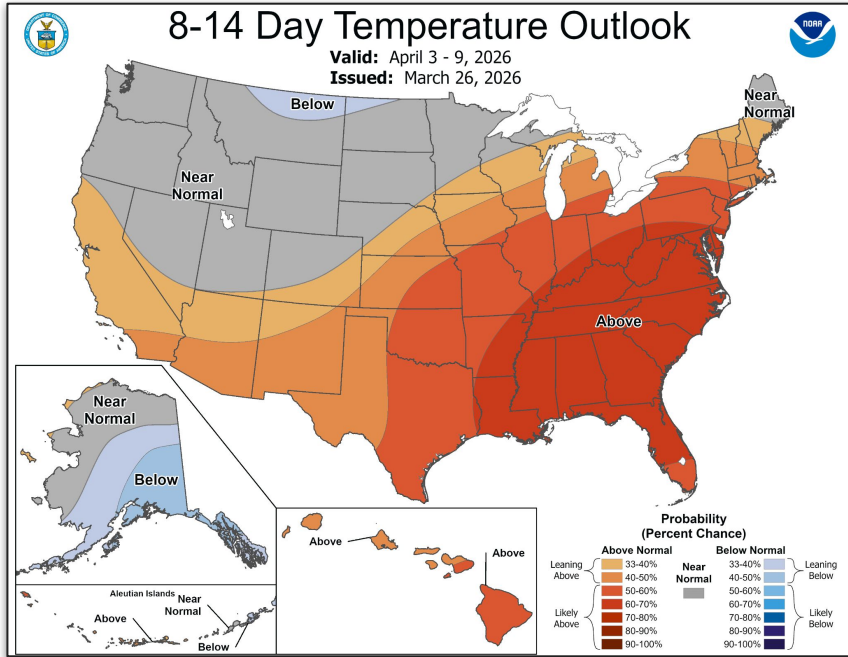
- 7-day precipitation is expected to range from 0.25-0.50" across southeastern Pennsylvania up to 1.50-2.00" across northwestern Pennsylvania.





# 8-14 Day Outlook

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



- The 8-14 day outlook trends towards above average temperatures and above average precipitation for central Pennsylvania.

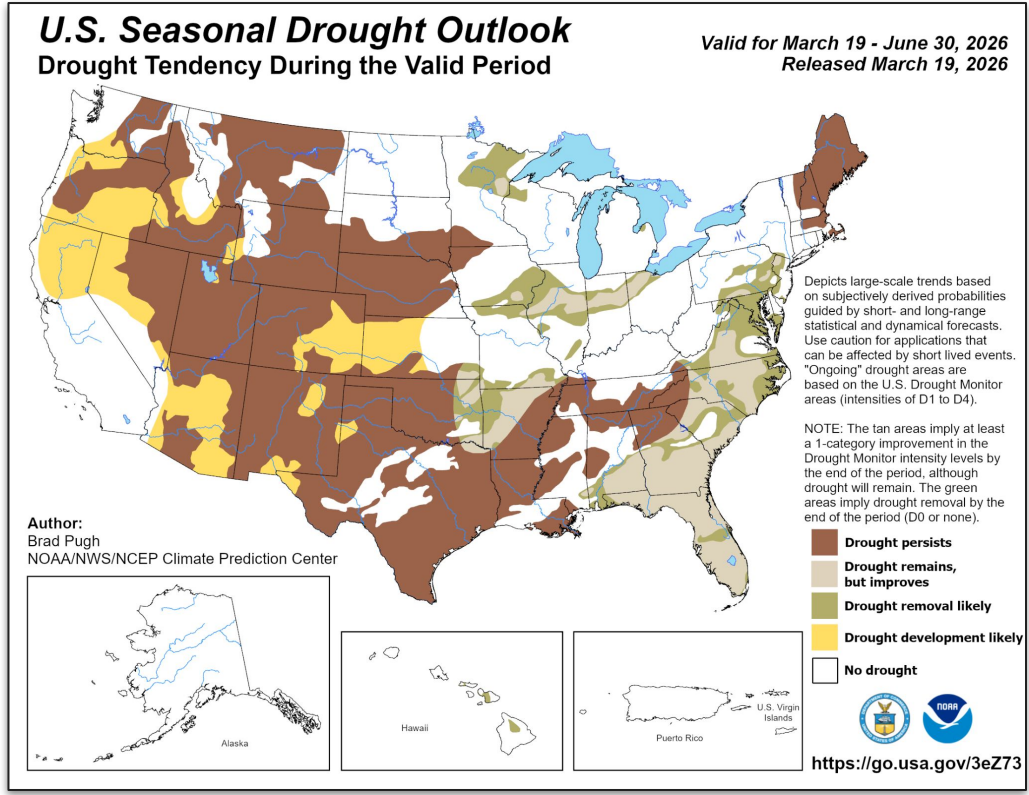




# Drought Outlook

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

- The Climate Prediction Center’s seasonal drought outlook calls for improvement and the likely removal of much of the existing drought across south-central and southeastern Pennsylvania by the end of June 2026.



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)