



Drought Information Statement for Central Pennsylvania

Valid **July 31, 2026**

Issued by: National Weather Service State College

Contact Information: ctp.stormreports@noaa.gov

- The next update to this Drought Information Statement will be issued by **August 14, 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.
-
- 30-day precipitation was generally above average across the northern and western highlands and the southern tier, and below average in the middle Susquehanna Valley.
 - The latest CPC Seasonal Drought Outlook calls for some improvement in the existing drought conditions across south-central Pennsylvania through late Summer and early Fall.

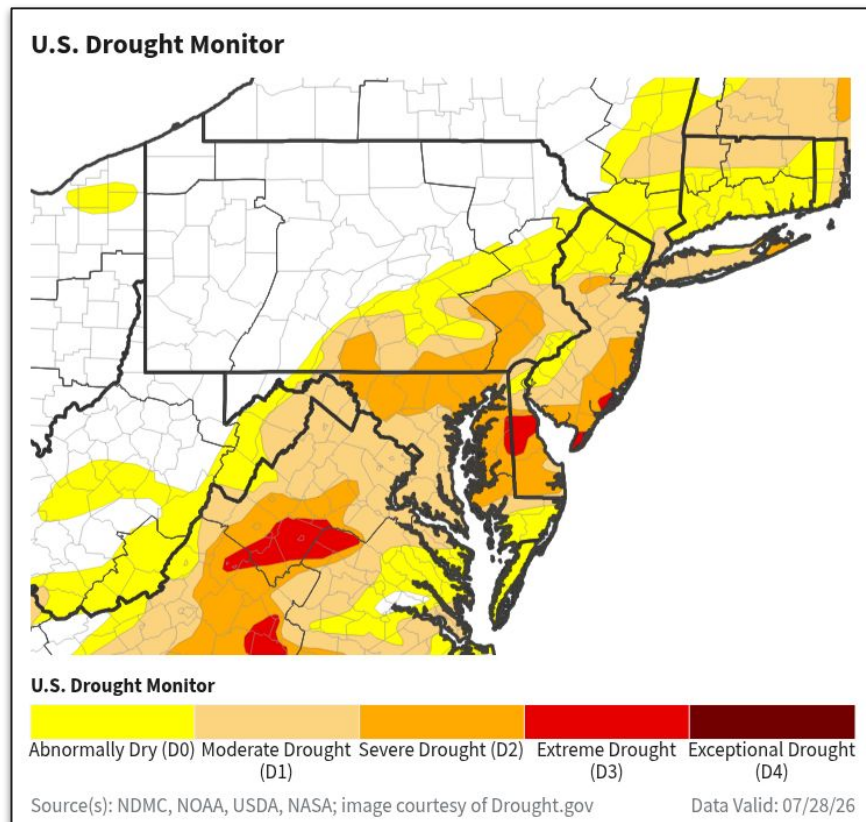




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought Intensity and Extent for Central Pennsylvania:
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Franklin, York, Lancaster
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Adams, Cumberland, Fulton, Lebanon, southern Huntingdon
 - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: Bedford, Dauphin, Perry, Juniata, Schuylkill

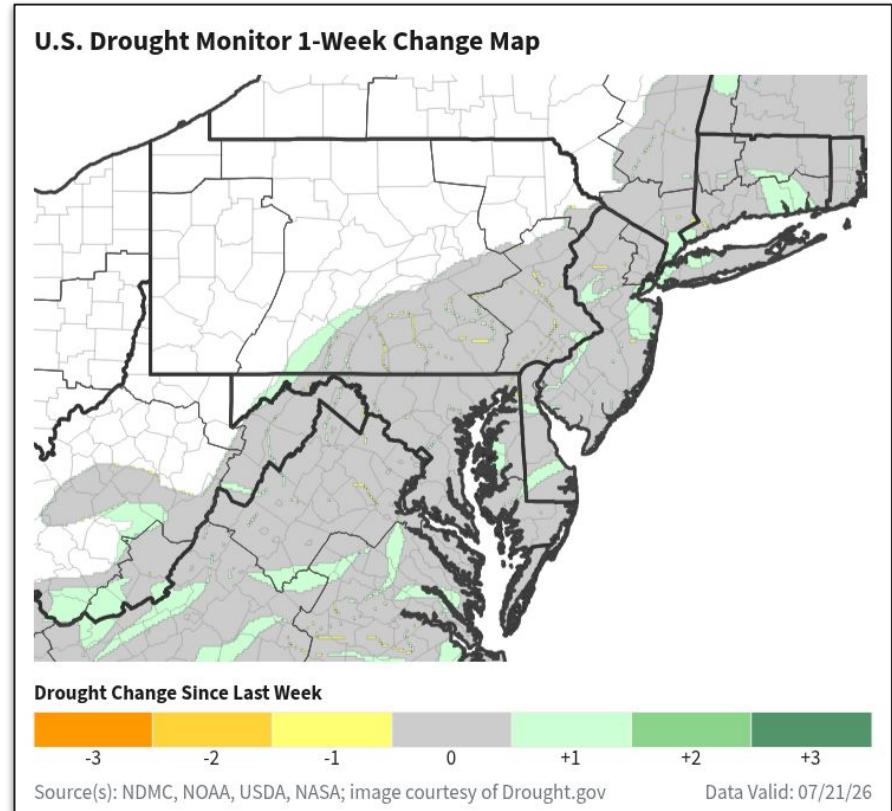




One-Week Change in Drought Intensity

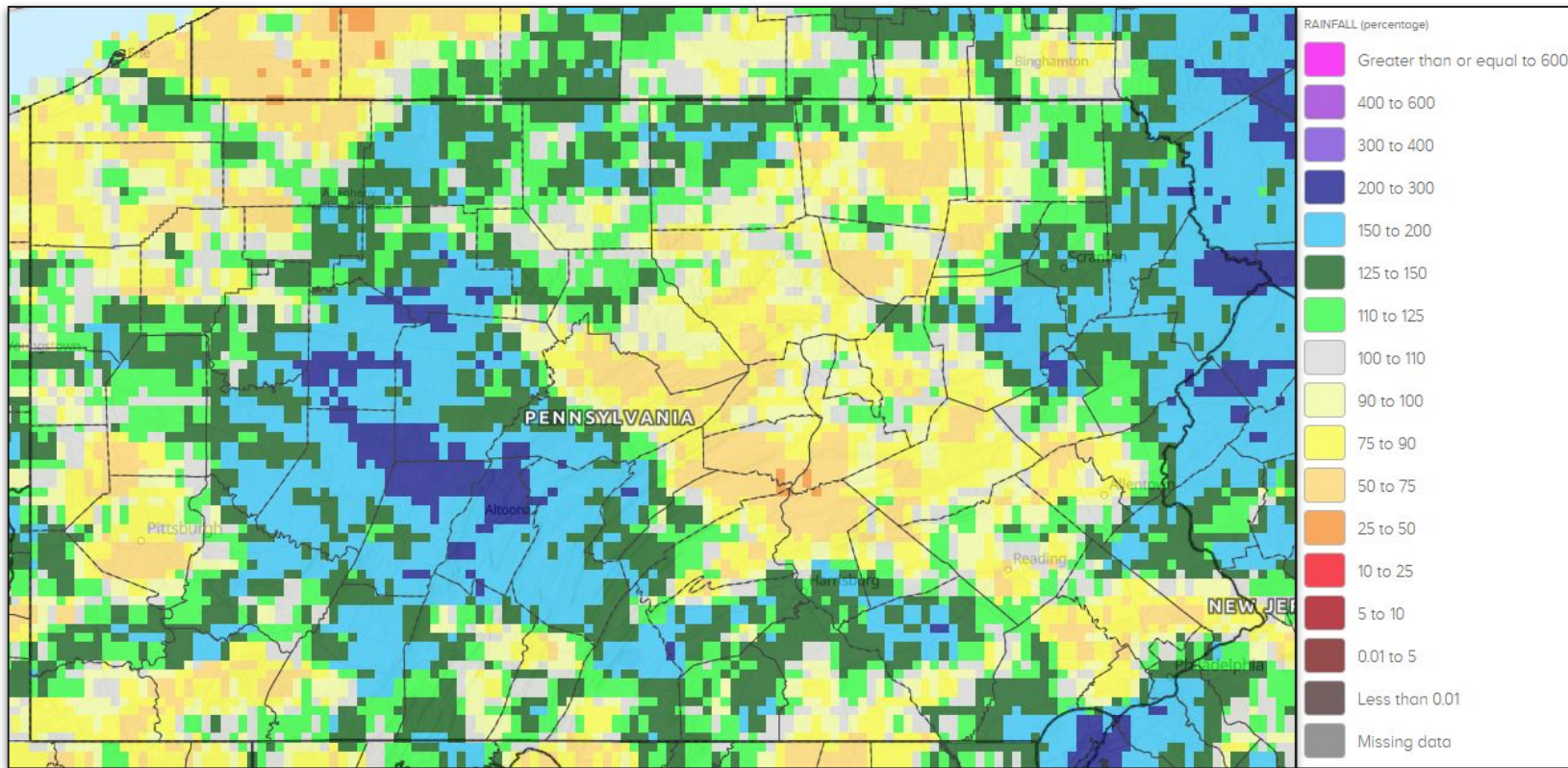
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - Marginal improvement was observed on the western edge of the lingering drought in Bedford and Huntingdon counties.





30-Day Precipitation Percent of Normal





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- 30-day precipitation was generally above average across the northern and western highlands and the southern tier, and below average in the middle Susquehanna Valley.

Agricultural Impacts

- 100-centimeter soil moisture remains below to well below average across the Susquehanna Valley, with much of the western highlands seeing above average soil moisture. See slide 6 for a map.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The significant wildfire potential outlook remains near average across Pennsylvania for August 2026. See slide 7 for a map and details.

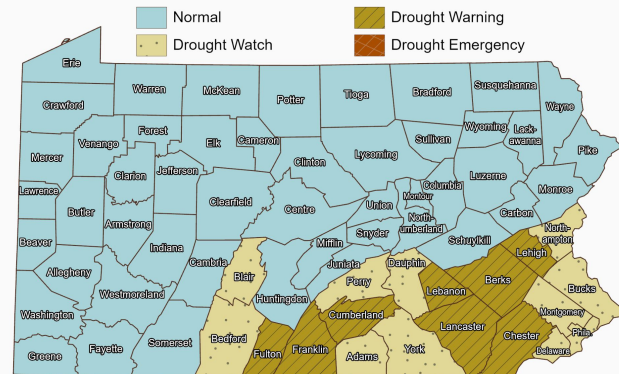
Other Impacts

- There are no countywide burn bans in effect across Central Pennsylvania.

Mitigation Actions

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

Latest PA drought designations:



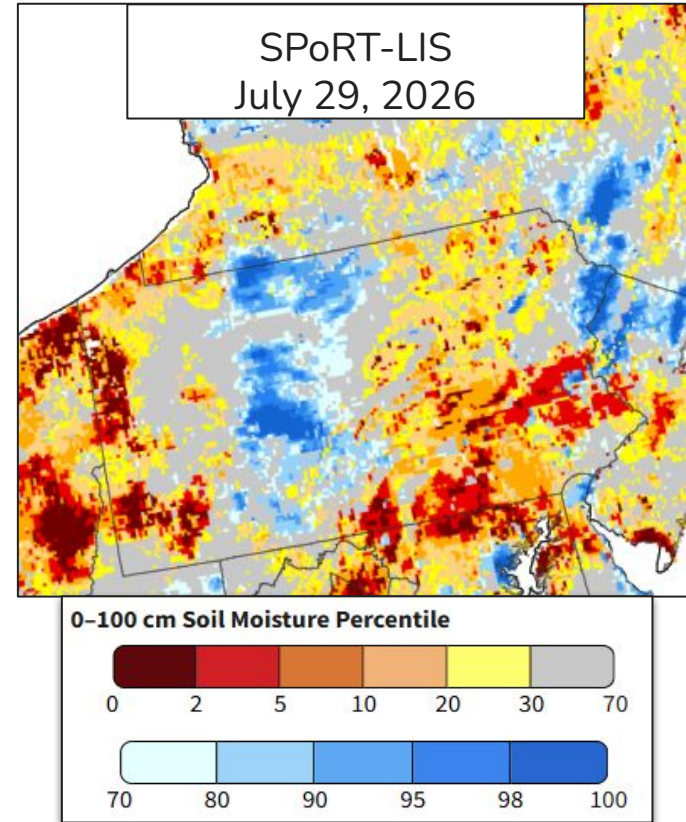
The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has issued a Drought Watches and Warnings for several south-central Pennsylvania counties. (The NWS does not declare Drought Watches or Warnings.)





Agricultural Conditions

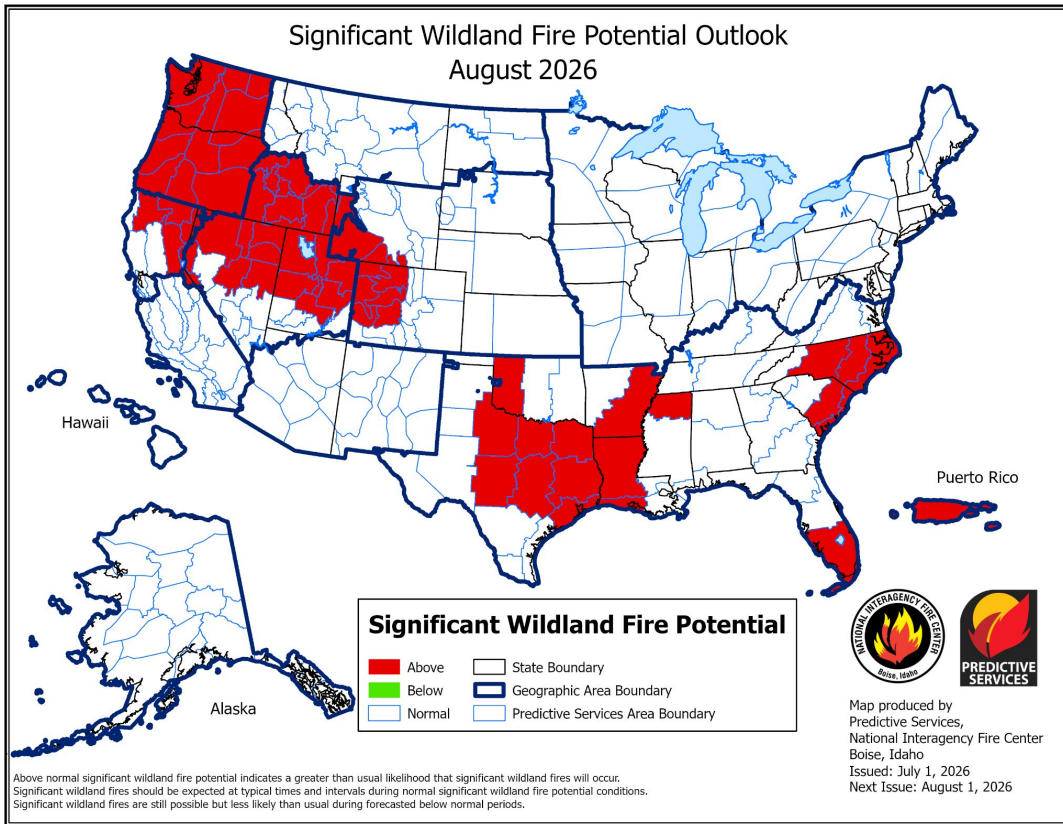
- 100-centimeter soil moisture remains below to well below average across the Susquehanna Valley, with much of the western highlands seeing above average soil moisture.





Fire Hazard Impacts

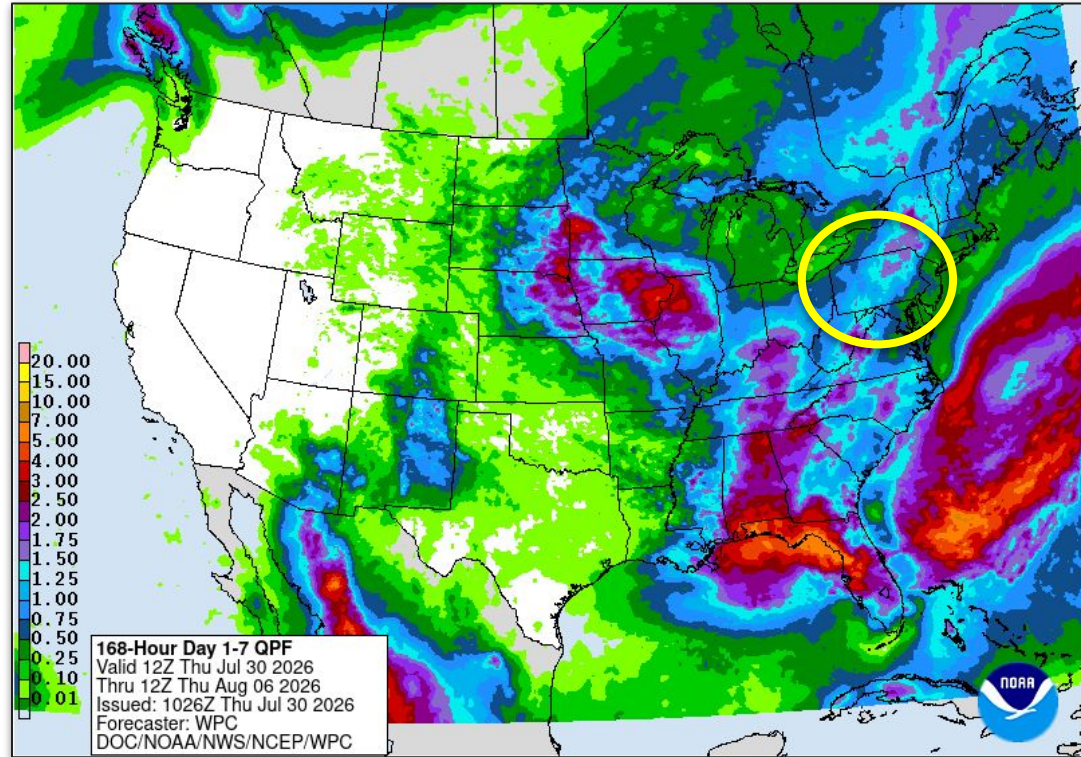
- The Significant Wildfire Potential Outlook is near average for August 2026.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

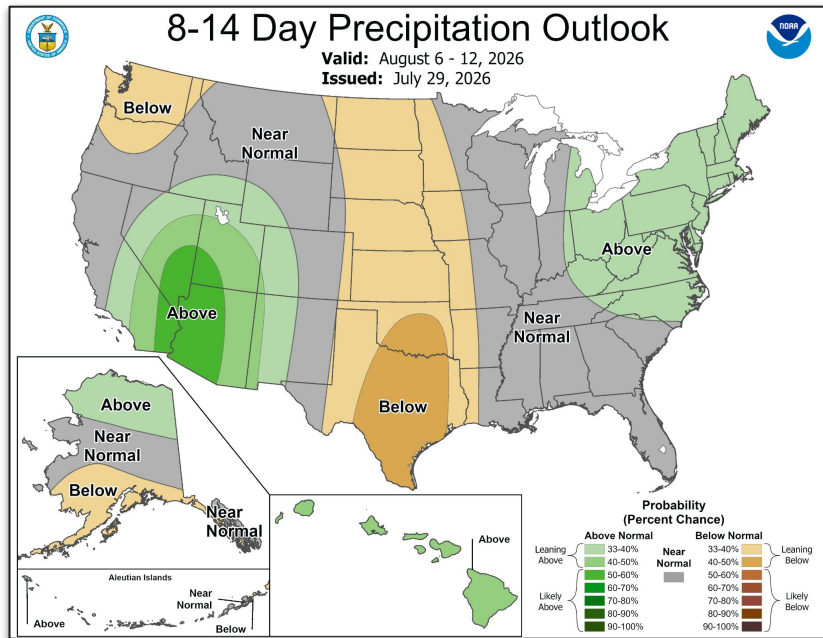
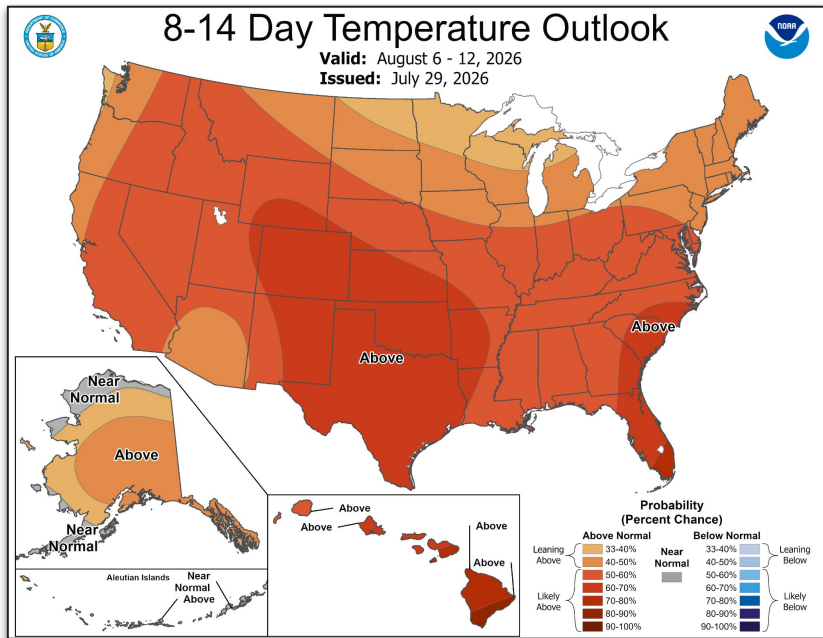
- The 7-day forecast calls for between three quarters of an inch and one and a half inches of rainfall across Central Pennsylvania, which is near to slightly above average for this time of year.





8-14 Day Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)



- The 8-14 day outlook calls for a trend towards above average temperatures and above average precipitation for Central Pennsylvania.

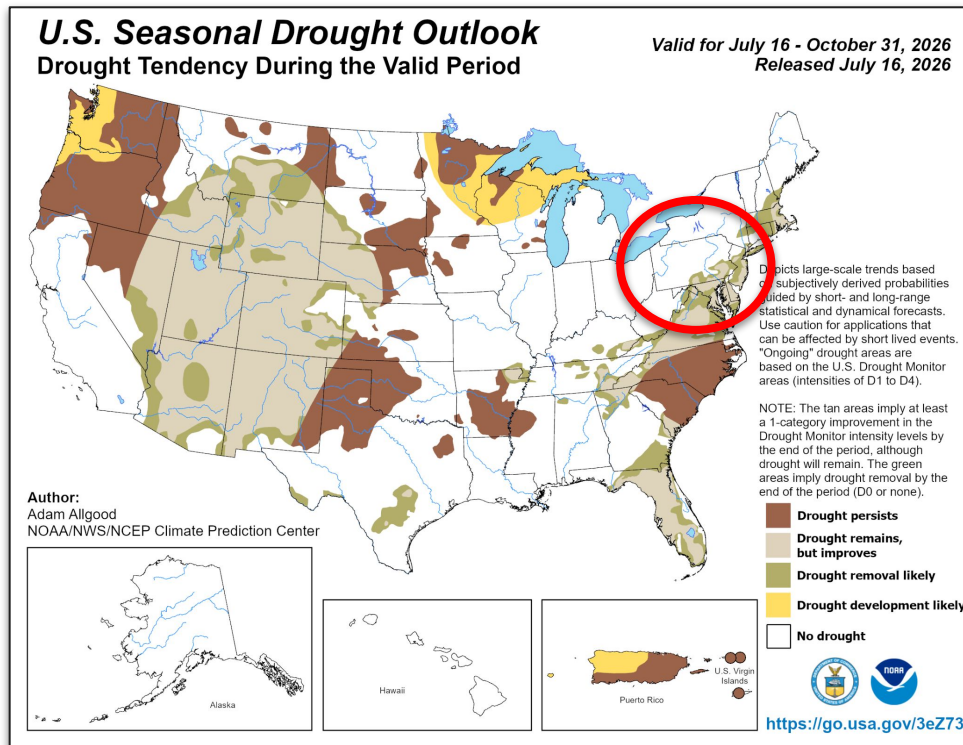




Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)

- The drought across portions of south-central Pennsylvania is expected to improve over the next few months, although some dryness may remain.



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Central Pennsylvania