Northeast U.S. Drought Conditions
August 30, 2016

Streamflow and Groundwater Levels

William Coon, Hydrologist
Oatka Creek at Garbutt, NY – 70 years of record
Ipswich River near Ipswich, MA – 85 years of record
(affected by withdrawals and regulation)
Pawcatuck River at Wood River Junction, RI – 75 years of record
Connetquot Brook near Central Islip, NY – 36 years of record
Groundwater Climate Response Network

Includes wells:

- Located in aquifers that respond to climatic fluctuations
- Minimally affected by pumpage
- Essentially unaffected by sources of artificial recharge (from irrigation, canals, etc.)
- Have never gone dry or are not susceptible to going dry
Massachusetts Reservoirs
(August 1, 2016)

Quabbin Reservoir
– 87.4% of capacity
Wachusett Reservoir
– 91.1 % of capacity

“Normal”

Source: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

http://geology.com/state-map/maps/massachusetts-rivers-map.gif
New York City Reservoirs
(August 26, 2016)

West of Hudson Reservoirs
(collectively)

Current storage – 81.6%
Normal storage – 81.2%

Source: New York City Environmental Protection

http://www.dos.ny.gov/watershed/images/lgmap.jpg
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