



# A Delaware Drought Story

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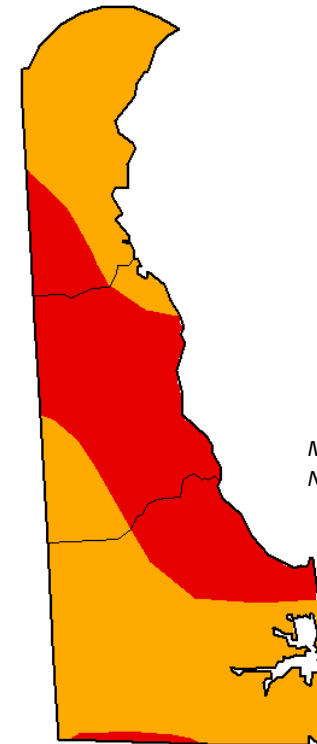
University of Delaware



# A Mid-Atlantic Drought!

- Developed in the summer of 2024 in WV, OH, and western MD/PA
- Shifted east in the Fall of 2024 to MD, DE, NJ, and eastern PA
- October was driest **month** in state (observed) history
- 6 straight months of below normal precipitation from Aug '24 through Feb '25


## U.S. Drought Monitor Delaware



Map for:  
November 26, 2024



# Drought Monitoring in Delaware



The screenshot displays the Delaware.gov website's page for the Water Supply Coordinating Council. The top navigation bar includes links for Agencies, News, Topics, and Contact. Below this, a secondary bar lists DIVISIONS, ABOUT DNREC, ADMIN. LAW, DNREC NEWS, and CONTACT US. The main heading is "Water Supply Coordinating Council" in green. A "Listen" button is present. A left sidebar under "Div. of Water" lists links: Home, Contact Us, Online Applications, Boards and Councils, For Residents, For Business and Government, Professional Licensing, and Wetlands / Waterways. The main content area contains a paragraph about the council's establishment, a highlighted box with a drought watch declaration by Governor John Carney, and a "Contact Us" box for Matthew T. Grabowski. It also includes detailed descriptions of the council's responsibilities and its expansion in 2023.

Delaware.gov Agencies News Topics Contact

DIVISIONS ABOUT DNREC ADMIN. LAW DNREC NEWS CONTACT US

## Water Supply Coordinating Council

[Listen](#)

**Div. of Water**

- Home
- Contact Us
- Online Applications
- Boards and Councils
- For Residents
- For Business and Government
- Professional Licensing
- Wetlands / Waterways

The current Water Supply Coordinating Council was established by the Delaware General Assembly ([7 Del. Code Chapter 75A](#)) to manage, protect, and ensure the adequacy of a clean water supply throughout Delaware.

Governor John Carney, with guidance from the Delaware Water Supply Coordinating Council, has declared a **statewide drought watch**. Delaware residents and non-farm businesses should reduce nonessential water use during this time.

[Versión en Español](#) — [Vèsyon Kreyòl Ayisyen](#)

**Contact Us**

[Matthew T. Grabowski](#)  
302-739-9945

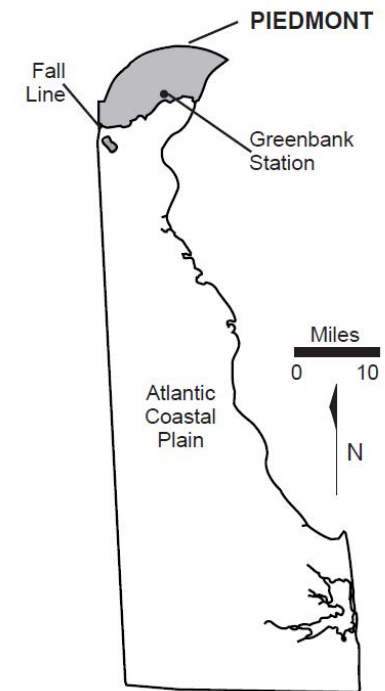
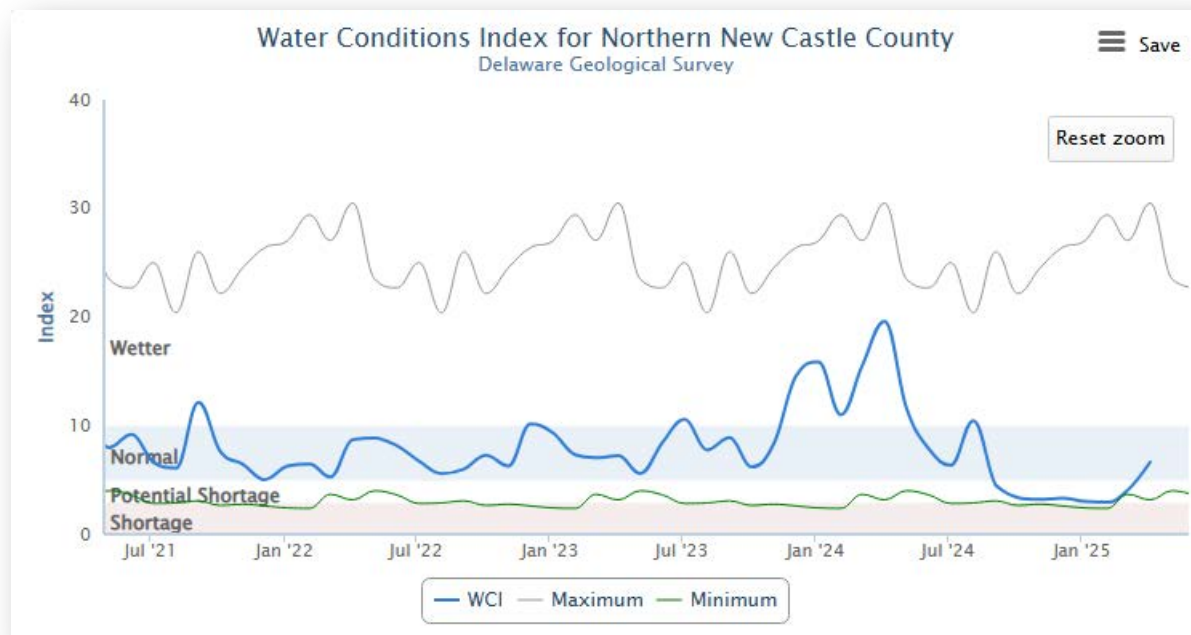
The Council is charged with planning and managing Delaware water supplies to ensure they can meet peak demand during times of water shortage. This includes reviewing water supply self-sufficiency reports for northern New Castle County and developing water supply plans for New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties.

The Council, which works closely with the [Water Infrastructure Advisory Council](#), includes representatives from state and county governments, climatologists, geologists, businesses, the agriculture community, water utilities and others.

The legislation that established the current council, in 2023 ([84 Del. Laws Chapter 208](#)), expanded on an earlier council whose scope had originally been limited to New Castle County. The Council has been extended several times over the years.

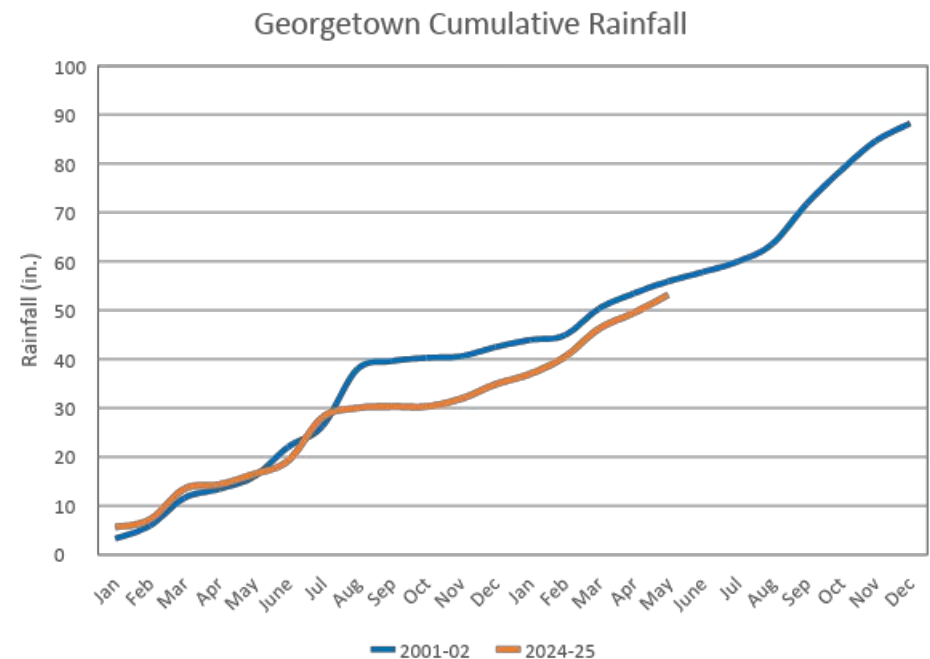


# Water Conditions Index for Northern DE



# Echoes of 2001-2002 Drought

- 2024 drought developed more rapidly than 2001-2002 drought
- Dry winter like 2001-2002 was our biggest concern
- Weekly drought monitoring began in October 2024
- Drought Watch issued on 10/26/24





# Delaware Drought Resources Webpage

- Launched in April
- Joint effort between Delaware Climate Office, Delaware Geological Survey, and Delaware DNREC
- Currently providing weekly drought updates
- <https://climate.udel.edu/drought>

