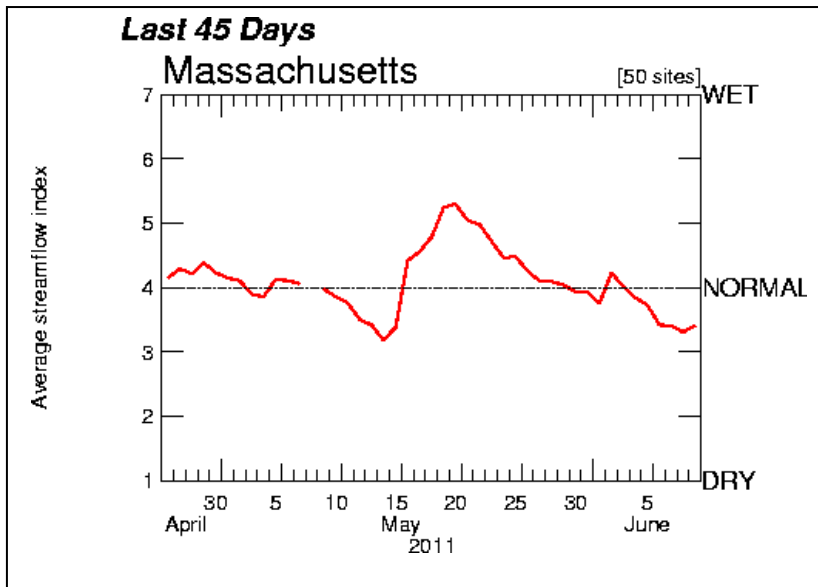
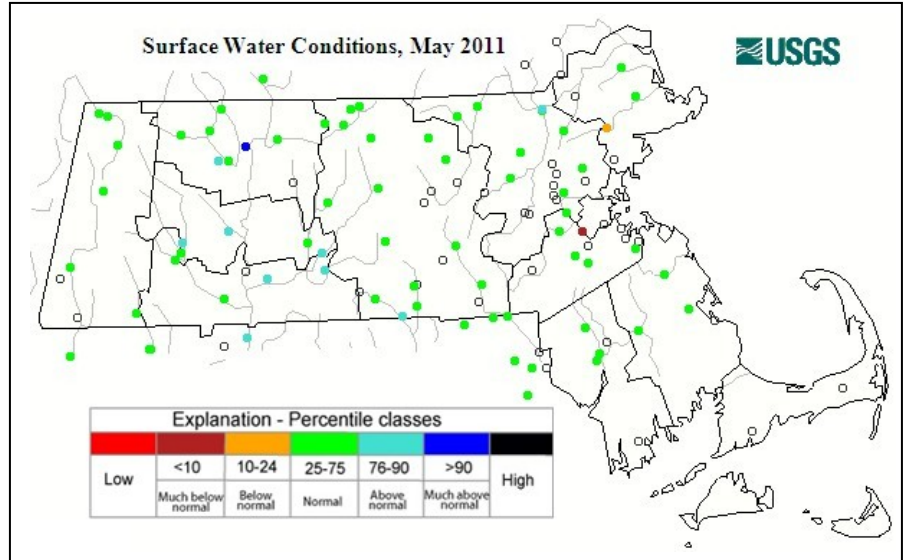




## Streamflow

Average May 2011 streamflows that are monitored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and United States Geological Survey (USGS) cooperative stream gaging program were generally normal throughout the State. As shown in a table at the end of this report MA DCR has listed the drought regions of Massachusetts as having normal and no data (Cape Cod and Islands) surface-water conditions for May.

The graph below depicts a composite daily streamflow relative to normal streamflow for Massachusetts for the period of April 25 to June 8, 2011. Generally normal to slightly below normal flows during the first third of the month rose to above normal at mid month and slowly declined to near normal at the end of the month and slightly below normal during the first part of June. The graph is a composite of 50 real-time gages across the state with a long period of record.



### KEY:

- 1 = New record low for day
- 2 = < 10<sup>th</sup> percentile
- 3 = 10<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> percentile
- 4 = 25<sup>th</sup> – 74<sup>th</sup> percentile
- 5 = 75<sup>th</sup> – 89<sup>th</sup> percentile
- 6 = ≥ 90<sup>th</sup> percentile
- 7 = New record high for day

## Water Supply Reservoir Levels

Surface water reservoir percent-full values for water supply sources provided by water suppliers are listed below. The reservoir percent-full values listed are for the end of May. Reservoirs are generally a little above- to normal for this time of year.

### May / June 2011 Massachusetts Reservoir Status

Reservoir/City or Town	Percent Full	Reservoir/City or Town	Percent Full
Quabbin	99.6	Beverly/Salem	99.5
Worcester	103	Lynn	85
Cobble Mt./ Springfield	95.2	Taunton/New Bedford/Assawompsett	100

Note: NA Indicates data not available for this report

## Drought Indices/Forecasts

### US Drought Monitor

The National Drought Mitigation Center's (NDMC's) June 7, 2011 Drought Monitor Map for the United States shown at right indicates no drought conditions in Massachusetts.

### Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

The Western Regional Climate Center's (Desert Research Institute, University and Community College System of Nevada) 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index values across Massachusetts at the end of May were normal. The 3- and 6-month values were very wet (west)/ moderately wet (central) and normal. The 12-month values were moderately wet (west)/normal. Massachusetts SPI values for the drought regions are all normal.

### NWS/NOAA's Climate Prediction Center

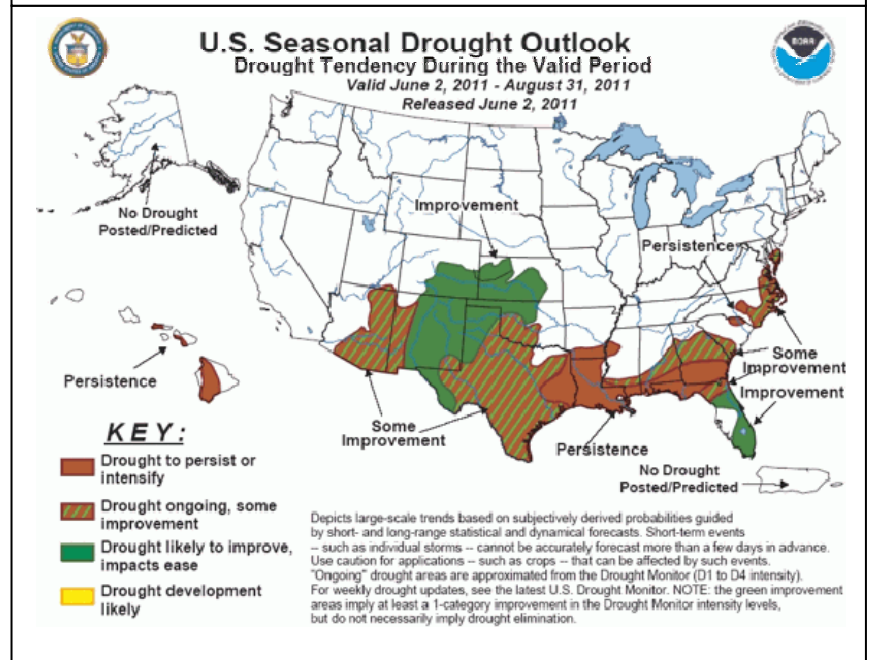
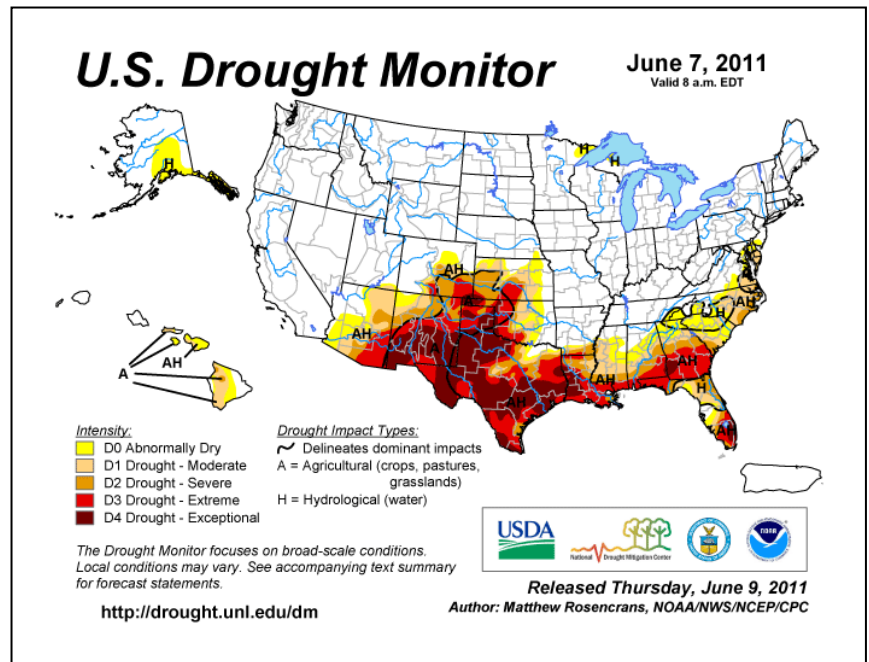
The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook dated June 2, 2011, predicts no tendency for drought conditions to develop in Massachusetts through August 2011.

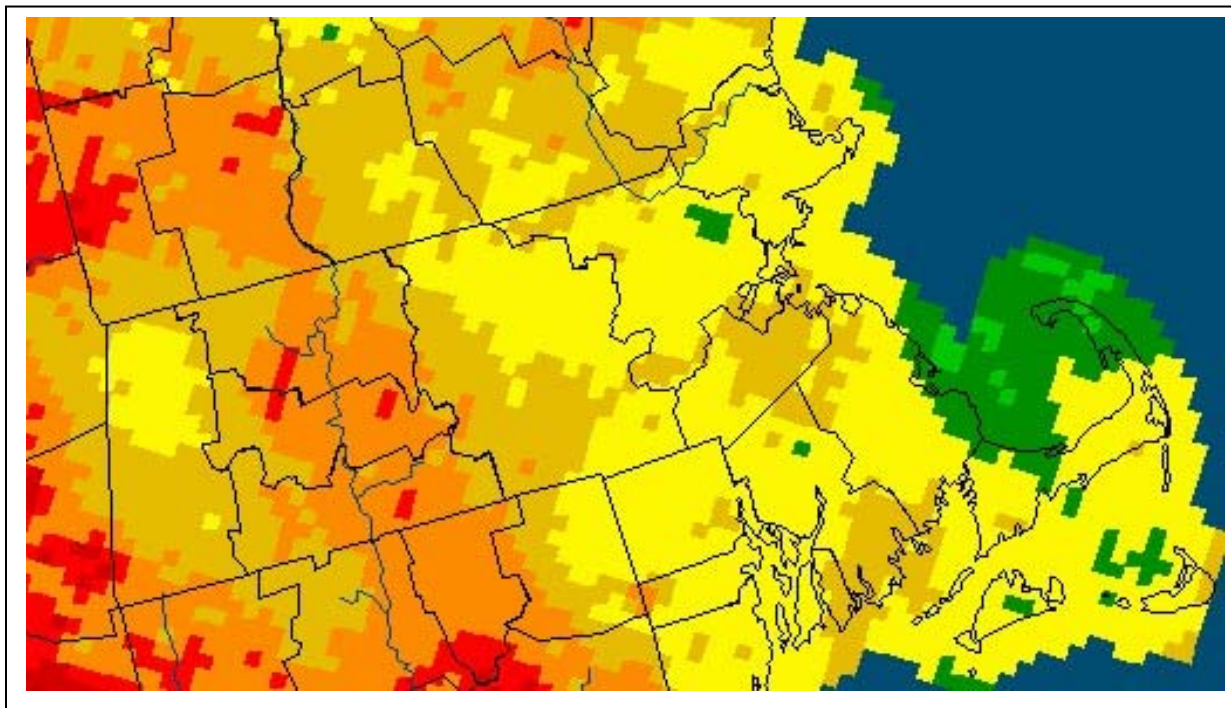
### Extended Forecasts

Cold front passage forecast for this afternoon or evening could produce strong thunderstorms and strong straight line wind. Friday should be clear and mild with a northwest breeze. Unsettled weather returns for Saturday and Sunday with some probability that a sub-tropical low moving up the east coast may influence this area and result in heavy rain. Clear weather should prevail for the first of next week.

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's extended 6 to 10- and 8 to 14-day forecasts are for above normal rainfall and normal temperatures. The 1-month forecast is for normal rainfall and temperatures. The NWS Climate Prediction Center Information can be found at:

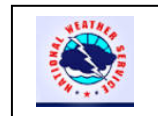
<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/index.php>





<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>

**TOTAL RAINFALL  
MAY 2011**



**GENERAL WATER CONDITIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS - MAY 2011**  
EOEEA and MEMA DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN REGIONS

Massachusetts Regions	Surface-Water Conditions	Ground-Water Conditions
Cape and Islands	ND	Normal
Southeast	Normal	Normal
Northeast	Normal	Normal
Central	Normal	Normal
Connecticut River	Normal	Above Normal
Western	Normal	Above Normal

*Note:* Surface- and ground-water conditions for individual streamflow-gaging stations and wells may differ from general conditions. ND, no data

## Weather Ramblings --- **Humbled by nature**

There is nothing so humbling as a natural disaster — nothing that can make us quite as aware of our own limitations, not to mention our own mortality.

Oh sure, we can have emergency plans in place — and by all accounts Massachusetts' emergency response to the tornadoes that hit the western part of the state was first rate. But in ways big and small we are pretty much at nature's mercy.

With a little warning — it's impossible to overstate the role of local weather forecasters and TV stations and news media Web sites that pulled out the stops to get news of those tornado warnings out there — sensible people can be expected to do the sensible thing, like get indoors or underground.

But these are also times when fate takes a hand. A busload of Hanover school children returning from a band and chorus competition got a scare that makes the thrill rides at Six Flags look tame by comparison. There was nowhere for them to go, but in the end they were spared.

Four Massachusetts residents were not so fortunate, and we grieve for their families.

Hundreds of others escaped with their lives but remain homeless. Thousands will face the daunting task of trying to repair or rebuild homes and businesses destroyed in an instant.

Not so long ago we watched in horror and in sorrow the devastation in the Midwest, the near-leveling of parts of Joplin, Mo., a city that came to resemble a war zone. Now the devastation is in our backyard, its victims our neighbors.

These are also the times that test our leaders and the teams they have put in place to tackle that which cannot be predicted. Gov. **Deval Patrick** and his team have proven up to the task with their early, rapid and calm response — the calling out of the National Guard, the setting up of emergency shelters, efforts to clear roads and cordon off wobbly buildings. And, yes, to comfort those who cannot even fathom their losses. The governor has proven that there is nothing quite like that human touch, someone to say, this will get better — because, well, it will.

**Article URL:** <http://www.bostonherald.com/news/opinion/editorials/view.bg?articleid=1342596>

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This report was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. Data were obtained from the sources described in the report and may be preliminary in nature. Additional information, previous and future water conditions reports can be found on our web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/watersupply/rainfall/>