



# United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
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<http://pa.water.usgs.gov>



## USGS WaterAlert

The U.S. Geological Survey WaterAlert service sends e-mail or text messages when certain parameters measured by a USGS data-collection station exceed user-definable thresholds. The development and maintenance of the WaterAlert system is supported by USGS and its data-collection partners, including numerous federal, state, and local agencies.

Real-time data from USGS gages are transmitted via satellite or other telemetry to USGS offices at various intervals; in most cases, once every 1 or 4 hours. Emergency transmissions, such as during floods, may be more frequent. *Notifications will be based on the data received at these site-dependent intervals.*

### Directions for use of WaterAlert

- Go to <http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/> [wait while WaterAlert page loads]
- Under Site Selection, choose Pennsylvania from the site selection menu
- Under Data Type, click on data type of interest:
  - Surface Water
  - Groundwater
  - Water Quality
  - Precipitation
- Click on "Zoom Box" to zoom into your area of interest
- Click on symbol that corresponds to gage of interest [*hovering over a symbol will display name of gage*]
- Confirm that correct gage is selected (date/time and current data will be displayed) and click "Subscribe".
- Select method of Notification -  buttons explain details of each element
  - Email [enter email address]
  - Text enter [10-digit phone number; cell phone carrier; email address (for one-time confirmation)]
- Select Notification Frequency
  - Hourly
  - Daily
- Select Parameter of interest
- Select Threshold Condition
  - Greater than
  - Less than
  - Outside a range
  - Inside a range
- Enter threshold value(s) into box
- Click in box indicating you have read and acknowledge the Provisional Data Statement and Disclaimer.
- Click on "Submit"

\*A confirmation message will be emailed to you; you must reply to the email activate the subscription