



## Brown Partners with Pocono Mountain Regional Police for Annual Shop with a Cop Event

By Senator Rosemary Brown

I had the privilege earlier this week of co-hosting the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department's Shop with a Cop event at Walmart in Mount Pocono. Officers volunteered their time to pair up with local children, helping them shop for holiday gifts and necessities while building positive connections with law enforcement in a fun, supportive setting.

This program creates lasting memories, strengthens trust, and reminds these children that their community is behind them. I was grateful to work alongside the Pocono Mountain Regional Police officers, Pocono Mountain School District, and Walmart staff to make this meaningful event possible. Thank you to all involved!

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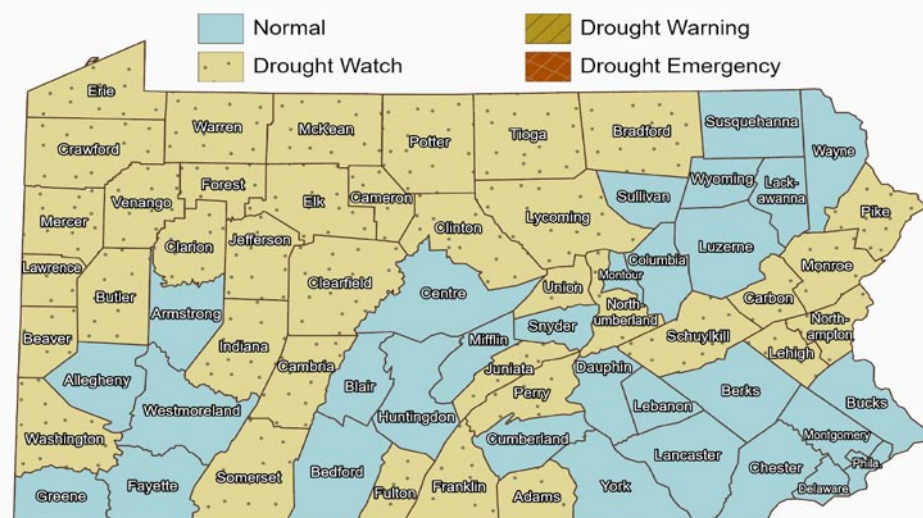
## Assistance Available to Help Rural Communities Fight Wildfires

By Senator Rosemary Brown

State grants are available to volunteer fire companies to help protect rural communities from wildfires.

Eligible applicants include local firefighting forces in rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Funding can be used for training and equipment purchases directly related to fighting brush and forest fires. Recipients are selected based on vulnerability and adequacy of existing fire protection, with a focus on improving volunteer readiness and protecting lives and property in under-protected areas.

Administered by the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the maximum grant award in 2026 is \$15,000 per fire company. Applications must be submitted electronically through DCNR's grant website by December 31st.



## Ongoing Drought Watch for Monroe County

By Senator Rosemary Brown

There is currently a Drought Watch ongoing in Monroe County (as of December 4th). Although residents of Lackawanna and Wayne are not currently in a Drought Watch, everyone in the 40th District please still be aware of the potential impacts.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) says residents should always pay attention to any information they receive from their local water supplier. Varying localized conditions may lead water suppliers or municipalities to ask residents to continue conservation measures. The Department always encourages residents to voluntarily conserve nonessential water use.

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