



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



May 1998

| Location | Date | Time<br>Local/<br>Standard | Path<br>Length<br>(Miles) | Path<br>Width<br>(Yards) | Number of<br>Persons<br>Killed | Number of<br>Persons<br>Injured | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Property | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Crops | Character of Storm |
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NONE REPORTED.

### MARYLAND, Central

#### Allegany County West Portion

|           |                            |  |  |  |          |          |             |  |              |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-------------|--|--------------|
| <b>04</b> | <b>2100EST<br/>2300EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>100K</b> |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-------------|--|--------------|

Slow-moving thunderstorms with very heavy rainfall aligned across the western portion of Allegany Co, dumping between 1 1/2 and 2 inches of rain in less than 3 hours onto saturated ground. Several streams and creeks overflowed their banks. In Midland, Neff's Run flooded, causing damage to the flood wall and washing away several gabion baskets. Damage to the baskets was estimated at \$100 thousand. A section of state route 936 was closed, and a few trees were knocked down by the swollen creek. Elsewhere, road and basement flooding was noted in Frostburg, McCoolle, Lonaconing, and Rawlings.

#### Harford County Forest Hill

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |                    |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------|
| <b>06</b> | <b>1455EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>2K</b> |  | <b>Hail (1.75)</b> |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------|

#### Harford County Bel Air

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |                    |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------|
| <b>06</b> | <b>1515EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>5K</b> |  | <b>Hail (1.75)</b> |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------|

An isolated severe thunderstorm persisted over Harford Co, dropping golf ball-sized hail in at least two locations. In Bel Air, a resident had an estimated \$3,500 damage to his home.

#### Frederick County West Portion

|           |                            |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |              |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------|
| <b>08</b> | <b>1100EST<br/>1600EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3K</b> |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------|

#### Washington County East Portion

|           |                            |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |              |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------|
| <b>08</b> | <b>1100EST<br/>1600EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3K</b> |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------|

Heavy rain bands, producing total rain between 1 1/2 and 2 inches in some locations, caused flooding to ensue across portions of western Maryland on the 8th. The rains, falling onto saturated soil, closed numerous roads in each county. In eastern Washington Co, several roads were closed in and near Hagerstown, many which cross Antietam Creek. One of the closed roads was state route 66. In Frederick Co, at least a dozen roads were closed due to flood waters. Downtown Frederick was spared to some extent as a city flood-reduction project along Carroll Creek helped divert water away from downtown businesses. However, Baker Park reported some minor flooding.

All roads eventually reopened by May 10th.

#### Allegany County Flintstone

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |                          |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>31</b> | <b>2100EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3K</b> |  | <b>Thunderstorm Wind</b> |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------|

#### Carroll County Taneytown

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |                          |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>31</b> | <b>2255EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3K</b> |  | <b>Thunderstorm Wind</b> |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------|

A tornadic thunderstorm, which moments earlier had produced a moderate tornado in southern Pennsylvania, tracked across northern Allegany Co late on the 31st. An associated downburst knocked trees down and caused minor property damage in the town of Flintstone. Additional storms formed just before midnight over north-central Maryland, producing tree damage in northwestern Carroll Co.

### VIRGINIA, North

#### VAZ030

|  |               |                |  |  |          |          |           |  |                    |
|--|---------------|----------------|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------|
|  | <b>Warren</b> |                |  |  |          |          |           |  |                    |
|  | <b>06</b>     | <b>1530EST</b> |  |  | <b>1</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>6K</b> |  | <b>River Flood</b> |
|  |               | M53VE          |  |  |          |          |           |  |                    |

#### Madison County Countywide

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |              |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--------------|
| <b>07</b> | <b>2230EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Flood</b> |
| <b>08</b> | <b>0000EST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |              |

#### Albemarle County East Portion

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |           |  |                  |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|------------------|
| <b>07</b> | <b>2330EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>2K</b> |  | <b>Lightning</b> |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-----------|--|------------------|

#### Rappahannock County West Portion

|           |                            |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |              |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--------------|
| <b>08</b> | <b>0200EST<br/>0800EST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--------------|



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|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|

### VIRGINIA, North

#### Albemarle County

|                          |    |                    |  |  |   |   |  |  |              |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| 5 N (Cho)Charlottesville | 08 | 1200EST<br>1700EST |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

#### Augusta County

|              |    |                    |  |  |   |   |  |  |              |
|--------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| East Portion | 08 | 1200EST<br>1700EST |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|--------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

A prolonged period of light to occasionally moderate rain gradually saturated the ground during the first few days of May. Isolated heavier showers and thunderstorms developed across the central Shenandoah Valley, first during the overnight hours of the 7th and again during the early and mid afternoon of the 8th, causing several small streams and creeks to overflow their banks. The rainy period, which lasted the first 12 days of the month, dropped an estimated 3 to 5 inches across all of northern Virginia. A 53 year-old Winchester man was swept to his death as he tried to navigate across a flooded low-water bridge along local route 624, six miles northeast of Front Royal in Warren Co. The bridge, which spans the main branch of the Shenandoah River below the convergence of the north and south forks, had been closed much of the spring. Rains of recent days had produced a flow of water 2 feet above the bridge surface; warning signs and cones had been deployed, blocking the entrance to the bridge.

Rain gage estimates of 2 to 3 inches produced scattered flooding of small streams and creeks in Madison and Rappahannock Cos. At least 12 secondary roads were closed in Madison Co by the high waters; at least 3 more were closed in western Rappahannock Co. The same area of showers and thunderstorms produced lightning, enough to strike a transformer near Charlottesville early on the 8th, causing an estimated 2500 customers to briefly lose power. Later that day, thunderstorms, dropping between 1 and 2 inches of rain, produced flooding along the Rivanna River, where a festival was being set up. Damage was minimal. Other flooding occurred in eastern Augusta Co near Brands Flats (between Staunton and Waynesboro) and motorists along interstate 64 reported water a foot in depth. Numerous roads were closed in each county.

#### Augusta County

|        |    |         |  |  |   |   |  |  |                    |
|--------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Verona | 16 | 1915EST |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Hail (1.75)</b> |
|--------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------|

An isolated but intense thunderstorm moved out of eastern West Virginia and into Highland and Augusta Cos during the evening of the 16th, producing a small area of large hail. Golf ball-sized hail was reported in Verona.

#### Rappahannock County

|                              |    |         |  |  |   |   |  |  |                    |
|------------------------------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Sperryville to<br>Washington | 24 | 2135EST |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Hail (0.88)</b> |
|------------------------------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------|

Nickel-sized hail was reported by a Skywarn spotter in Sperryville. The same cell dropped 3/4 inch diameter hail in nearby Amissville and Washington..

### WEST VIRGINIA, East

#### Mineral County

|                   |    |                    |  |  |   |   |  |  |              |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| Northwest Portion | 04 | 2100EST<br>2300EST |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Flood</b> |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

Slow-moving thunderstorms with very heavy rain aligned across the northwestern portion of Mineral Co, dumping between 1 1/2 and 2 inches of rain in less than 3 hours onto saturated ground. Several streams and creeks overflowed their banks, and some basements likely flooded in and around Keyser.