



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### ATLANTIC NORTH

ANZ533	Chesapeake Bay N Beach To Drum Pt Md								
5 N Cove Pt	13	1930EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ536	Tidal Potomac Indian Hd To Cobb Is Md								
Dahlgren	13	1940EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ535	Tidal Potomac Key Bridge To Indian Hd Md								
Rnld Reagan Natl Arpt	26	1434EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G38)
ANZ536	Tidal Potomac Indian Hd To Cobb Is Md								
Quantico	26	1500EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G38)
ANZ535	Tidal Potomac Key Bridge To Indian Hd Md								
Woodbridge	26	1500EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
Patuxent River Nas	26	1555EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ533	Chesapeake Bay N Beach To Drum Pt Md								
5 N Cove Pt	26	1630EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G36)
ANZ537	Tidal Potomac Cobb Is Md To Smith Pt Va								
Lewisetta	26	1630EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
17 E Patuxent River Nas	26	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G39)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
15 E Patuxent River Nas	26	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
Point Lookout	26	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
Smith Island	26	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G39)
ANZ537	Tidal Potomac Cobb Is Md To Smith Pt Va								
Point Lookout	26	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ533	Chesapeake Bay N Beach To Drum Pt Md								
Cove Pt	26	1715EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G36)
ANZ535	Tidal Potomac Key Bridge To Indian Hd Md								
3 N Indian Head	31	1500EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G36)
ANZ534	Chesapeake Bay Drum Pt To Smith Pt Va								
Smith Island	31	1700EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)
ANZ535	Tidal Potomac Key Bridge To Indian Hd Md								
Rnld Reagan Natl Arpt	31	1738EST			0	0			Marine Tstm Wind (G35)

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DCZ001	District Of Columbia								
	20	1415EST 1800EST			0	0			Flood
Between 2 and 2.25 inches of rain fell on the 20th. The heavy rainfall caused flooding on a handful of roads across the city.									

### MARYLAND, Central

Allegany County									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain



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### MARYLAND, Central

<b>Anne Arundel County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Baltimore County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Baltimore City (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Calvert County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Carroll County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Charles County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Harford County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Howard County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Montgomery County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>St. Mary'S County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Washington County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain

<b>MDZ004-013 Frederick - Prince Georges</b>									
	20	1415EST 1800EST			0	0			Flood

Between 1.5 and 2.5 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The heavy precipitation caused flooding of low lying areas and waterways in isolated areas. In Frederick County, the Monocacy River overflowed onto Mumma Ford Road. High water closed 4 other roads countywide including Retreat Road and Black Mills Road. In Prince George's County, a creek overflowed onto Surratts Road in Clinton.

<b>MDZ003&gt;004 Washington - Frederick</b>									
	20	1945EST			0	0			Flood
	22	1000EST							

Around 2 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The runoff from this precipitation caused the Potomac River and Conococheague Creek to overflow their banks. The Potomac River rose above its flood stage of 16 feet at Point of Rocks at 9:15 PM on the 21st. It crested at 16.85 feet around 3:00 AM on the 22nd and fell below flood stage at 10:00 AM on the 22nd. A low water road to a home in Brunswick was inundated by water. In Washington County, Conococheague Creek rose above its bankful stage of 8 feet at Fairview on the 20th at 7:45 PM. It crested at 10.34 feet at 7:00 AM on the 21st and fell below bankful stage at 6:00 AM on the 22nd. Wishard Road was inundated by water from the creek.

<b>Charles County</b>									
Nanjemoy	29	1807EST			0	0			Funnel Cloud



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### MARYLAND, Central

A funnel cloud was spotted.

**Charles County**  
**2 SW La Plata**

<b>29</b>	<b>1825EST</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Tornado (F0)</b>
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A tornado briefly touched down just southwest of La Plata.

**Charles County**  
**La Plata**

<b>29</b>	<b>1830EST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Hail(0.75)</b>
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Penny sized hail fell.

**Charles County**  
**3 E La Plata**

<b>29</b>	<b>1835EST</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Tornado (F0)</b>
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*Picture of a wall cloud passing over La Plata Town Hall (courtesy of La Plata Police Department)*

A tornado briefly touched down just east of La Plata near Hawkins Gate Road.

A severe thunderstorm pushed across the Potomac River from Stafford County, Virginia into Charles County around Nanjemoy about 6 PM. A funnel cloud dropped from the storm over Nanjemoy and was spotted again several times as the storm moved toward La Plata. The funnel touched down briefly about 2 miles southwest of La Plata and again about 3 miles east of town. A few trees were downed at the site of the first touchdown. The second touchdown near Hawkins Gate Road resulted in little if any damage. When the storm was passing directly over La Plata it produced penny sized hail. A police officer took a photograph of a wall cloud over Town Hall as the storm moved through.

**MDZ002>003**

**Allegheny - Washington**

<b>30</b>	<b>0500EST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Winter Storm</b>
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**MDZ004>006-009>011**

**Frederick - Carroll - Northern Baltimore - Montgomery - Howard - Southern Baltimore**

<b>30</b>	<b>0500EST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Winter Weather/Mix</b>
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Low pressure over North Carolina moved northeast along the Atlantic Seaboard on the 31st. This system brought a period of light to moderate snow to western and central Maryland. Snowfall accumulations with this late season storm were elevation dependent because ground temperatures were above freezing below 1500 feet. This prevented most of the snowfall from accumulating in valleys and in lower elevations east of Hagerstown. Lower elevations reported accumulations between 1 and 3 inches. Above 1500 feet where the snow was able to accumulate, snow depth reached 4 to 8 inches. Minor power outages were reported in isolated locations where the snow weighed down on trees and power lines.



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## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	
<b><u>VIRGINIA, North</u></b>									
<b>Alexandria (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Arlington County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Augusta County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Charlottesville (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Clarke County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Fairfax (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Falls Church (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Fredericksburg (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Greene County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Highland County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Manassas (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Manassas Park (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Nelson County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Page County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Rappahannock County</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Staunton (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>Waynesboro (C)</b>									
Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
<b>VAZ026&gt;028-030-037-039- 041&gt;042-050&gt;053-055&gt;057</b>									
Rockingham - Shenandoah - Frederick - Warren - Albemarle - Madison - Fauquier - Loudoun - Orange - Culpeper - Prince William - Fairfax - Stafford - Spotsylvania - King George	20	1100EST 2000EST			0	0			Flood

Between 1.5 and 2.5 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The heavy precipitation caused flooding of low lying areas and



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March 2003

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### VIRGINIA, North

waterways across much of the northern third of Virginia. In Rockingham County, Union Spring Run overflowed near the intersection of routes 743 and 731 near Ottobine. A stream running through James Madison University in Harrisonburg overflowed its banks. In Albemarle County, a few roads were closed by flooding. In Madison County, 8 state roads were closed by high water. In Orange County, 13 state roads were closed by high water. In Culpeper County, 20 state roads were closed by high water. In Spotsylvania County, a handful of roads were closed by flooding. In King George County, water overflowed from ditches onto roads. In Stafford County, many secondary roads were underwater. In Prince William County, Aden Road near Nokesville and Valley View Road were closed by high water. In Fauquier County, small streams overflowed their banks northeast of Warrenton. In Fairfax County, Richmond Highway was flooded at Gunstore Road. Woodlawn Road was flooded at Spicewood Road. In Loudoun County, Evergreen Mills Road was partially flooded. In Warren County, about a dozen roads were closed by high water including Happy Creek Road, Eighth Street, and Ritenour Hollow Road. Bridges that were closed by flooding included Morgan's Ford near Harmony Hollow Road and at Buck Mountain near Bentonville. In Shenandoah County, 27 roads were closed by flooding. In Frederick County, a motorist had to be rescued on Sulphur Springs Road when his car was stranded after trying to cross a water covered bridge over Opequon Creek. The Cedar Creek bridge on Route 11, south of Middletown, was nearly closed by rising water. A total of 15 roads were shut down by flooding countywide. In Winchester, University Drive was flooded by runoff.

**VAZ041**

**Fauquier**

<b>21</b>	<b>0215EST 1330EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Flood</b>
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Around 2 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The runoff from this precipitation caused the Rappahannock River to overflow its banks at Remington. It reached the 15 foot flood stage on the 21st at 2:15 AM. It crested at 15.95 feet at 8:30 AM and fell below flood stage at 1:30 PM. A few structures south of Remington were inundated by water.

**Culpeper County**  
**3 NW Culpeper**

<b>21</b>	<b>1730EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>Lightning</b>
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A deputy sheriff was struck by lightning while walking to his car.

A thunderstorm that moved through Culpeper County around 5:30 PM produced a lightning bolt that injured a man 3 miles northwest of Culpeper. A deputy sheriff was walking to his squad car parked in his driveway along Route 729 when a lightning bolt struck nearby. He fell to the ground after being shocked by the bolt and had no feeling below his waist. Using his arms, he dragged himself back into his home to call for help. He was taken to a local hospital and within a few hours regained feeling in his legs. On his property, two cars would not start after the computer ignition systems were damaged by the strike. Also, the radio in the squad car was fried by the bolt.

**Fredericksburg (C)**  
**Fredericksburg**

<b>29</b>	<b>1730EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.10K</b>		<b>Thunderstorm Wind (G50)</b>
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A tree was downed on the Spotsylvania County line.

**Stafford County**  
**4 W Stafford**

<b>29</b>	<b>1745EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1K</b>		<b>Thunderstorm Wind (G50)</b>
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Telephone lines were downed.

**Stafford County**  
**Stafford**

<b>29</b>	<b>1750EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Hail(1.00)</b>
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Quarter sized hail fell.

**Stafford County**  
**2 S Stafford**

<b>29</b>	<b>1750EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Hail(0.88)</b>
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Nickel sized hail fell.

A severe thunderstorm moved through Spotsylvania and Stafford counties between 5 and 7 PM. A tree was downed on the Fredericksburg City and Spotsylvania County Line. Quarter sized hail fell in the city of Stafford and nickel sized hail fell just south of town. Telephone lines were downed 4 miles west of Stafford.

**VAZ021-025>026**

**Highland - Augusta - Rockingham**

<b>30</b>	<b>0500EST 2200EST</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Winter Storm</b>
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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### VIRGINIA, North

VAZ027>031-037>042-050>053	Shenandoah - Frederick - Page - Warren - Clarke - Albemarle - Greene - Madison - Rappahannock - Fauquier - Loudoun - Orange - Culpeper - Prince William - Fairfax	30	0500EST 2200EST		0	0			Winter Weather/Mix
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Low pressure over North Carolina moved northeast along the Atlantic Seaboard on the 31st. This system brought a period of light to moderate snow to the region. Snowfall accumulations with this late season storm were elevation dependent because ground temperatures were above freezing below 1500 feet. This prevented most of the snowfall from accumulating in valleys and in lower elevations east of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Lower elevations reported accumulations between 1 and 3 inches. Above 1500 feet where the snow was able to accumulate, snow depth reached 4 to 8 inches. Minor power outages were reported in isolated locations where the snow weighed down on trees and power lines.

### WEST VIRGINIA, East

WVZ053	Jefferson	07	0800EST 2100EST		0	0			Flood
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A combination of melting snow and rainfall on the 6th caused the Potomac River at Shepherdstown to flood. Flood stage at Shepherdstown is 15 feet. The river rose to 15 feet at 8 AM, crested at 15.5 feet at 3 PM, and dropped below flood stage at 9 PM. Water overflowed into low lying areas upstream from the Shepherdstown Water Plant. Flooding was also observed on River Road and in low lying areas downstream from Shepherdstown.

Berkeley County Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST		0	0			Heavy Rain
Grant County Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST		0	0			Heavy Rain
Jefferson County Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST		0	0			Heavy Rain
Mineral County Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST		0	0			Heavy Rain
Pendleton County Countywide	20	0000EST 2359EST		0	0			Heavy Rain
WVZ050>051-055	Hampshire - Morgan - Hardy	20	1415EST 2000EST		0	0		Flood

Between 1.5 and 2.5 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The heavy precipitation caused flooding of low lying areas and waterways in isolated areas. In Morgan County, some creeks rose out of their banks. In Hampshire County, Christian Church Road was flooded. In Hardy County, Waites Road in Wardensville and Rig Road were flooded.

WVZ052>053	Berkeley - Jefferson	21	0100EST		0	0			Flood
		22	0830EST						

Around 2 inches of rain fell region wide on the 20th. The runoff from this precipitation caused the Potomac River and Opequon Creek to overflow their banks. The Potomac River reached its flood stage of 15 feet at Shepherdstown at 1:00 PM on the 21st. It crested at 16.73 feet at 9:45 PM and fell below flood stage at 8:30 AM on the 22nd. Water overflowed into low lying areas upstream from the Shepherdstown Water Plant. Flooding was also observed on River Road and in low lying areas downstream from Shepherdstown. In Berkeley County, Opequon Creek overflowed its banks in Martinsburg. The creek reached its bankful stage of



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**WEST VIRGINIA, East**

10 feet at 1:00 AM on the 21st. It crested at 11.51 feet at 11:30 AM and fell below flood stage at 5:45 PM. Water overflowed into a field near the gauge and other low lying areas along the creek were inundated by water.

<b>WVZ048&gt;051-054&gt;055</b>	<b>Grant - Mineral - Hampshire - Morgan - Pendleton - Hardy</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0500EST 2200EST</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Winter Storm</b>
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<b>WVZ052&gt;053</b>	<b>Berkeley - Jefferson</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0500EST 2200EST</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>Winter Weather/Mix</b>
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Low pressure over North Carolina moved northeast along the Atlantic Seaboard on the 31st. This system brought a period of light to moderate snow to the Eastern Panhandle. Snowfall accumulations with this late season storm were elevation dependent because ground temperatures were above freezing below 1500 feet. This prevented most of the snowfall from accumulating in valleys and in lower elevations east of the foothills. Lower elevations reported accumulations between 1 and 3 inches. Above 1500 feet where the snow was able to accumulate, snow depth reached 4 to 8 inches with isolated amounts up to 12 inches above 3000 feet. Minor power outages were reported in isolated locations where the snow weighed down on trees and power lines.