

MARFC Sandy Briefing

NWS Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center
11am Monday Oct 29, 2012

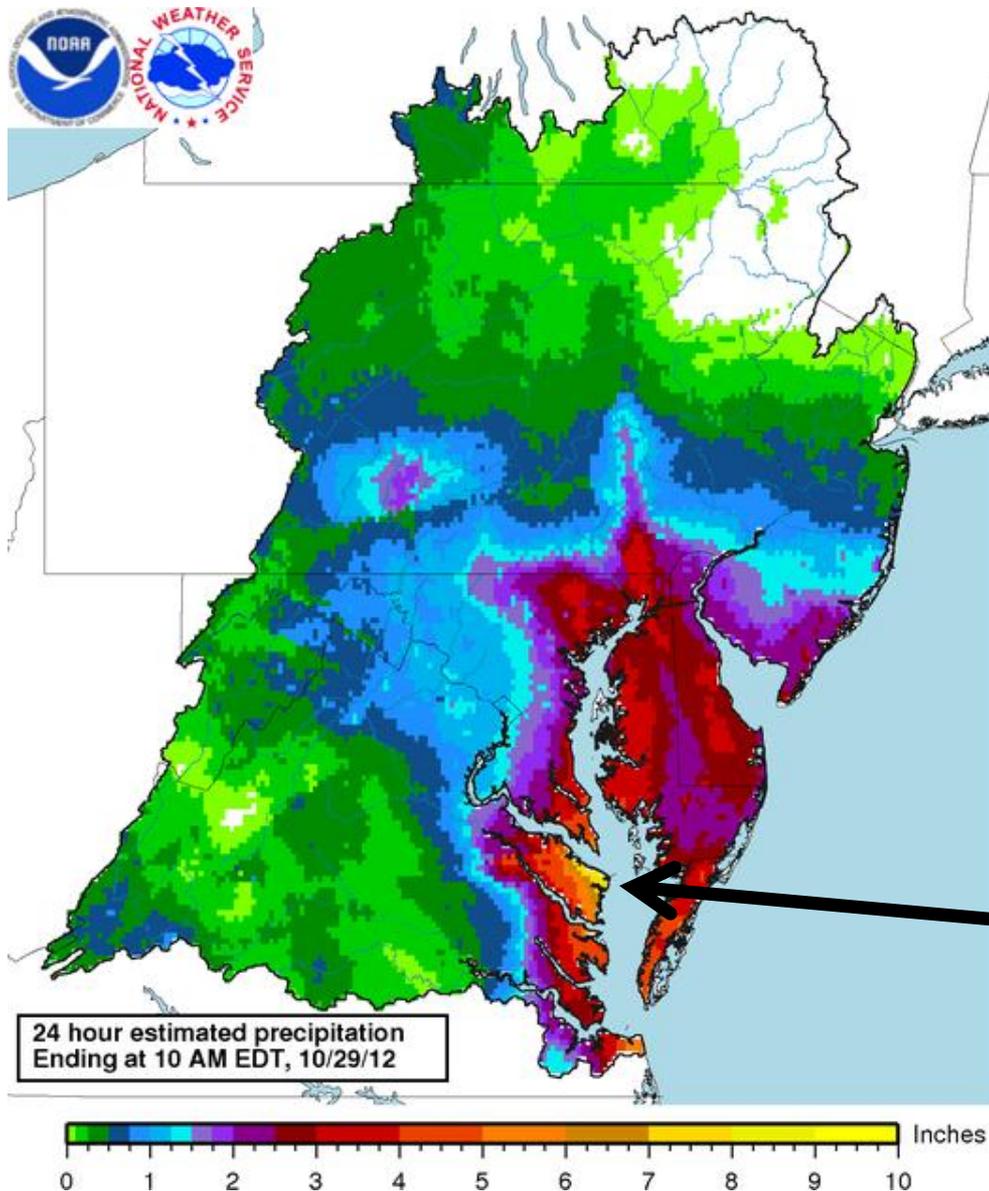
Key Message – Continue to monitor <http://water.weather.gov> for frequent updates to river forecasts.

- storm is underway in the Mid Atlantic region and extreme rainfall amounts are predicted for a large portion of our area. Major flooding is forecast for much of the Potomac River Basin, as well as southeastern PA creeks.
- There is still uncertainty on the exact rainfall amounts, location and timing. Our forecasts will be updated frequently through this event.
- Continue to monitor <http://water.weather.gov> for the latest river forecasts.
- If you've been using MMEFS, please transition to using our official river forecasts at <http://water.weather.gov> The official forecasts are prepared by our hydrologists here at the MARFC.

MARFC Operations Status

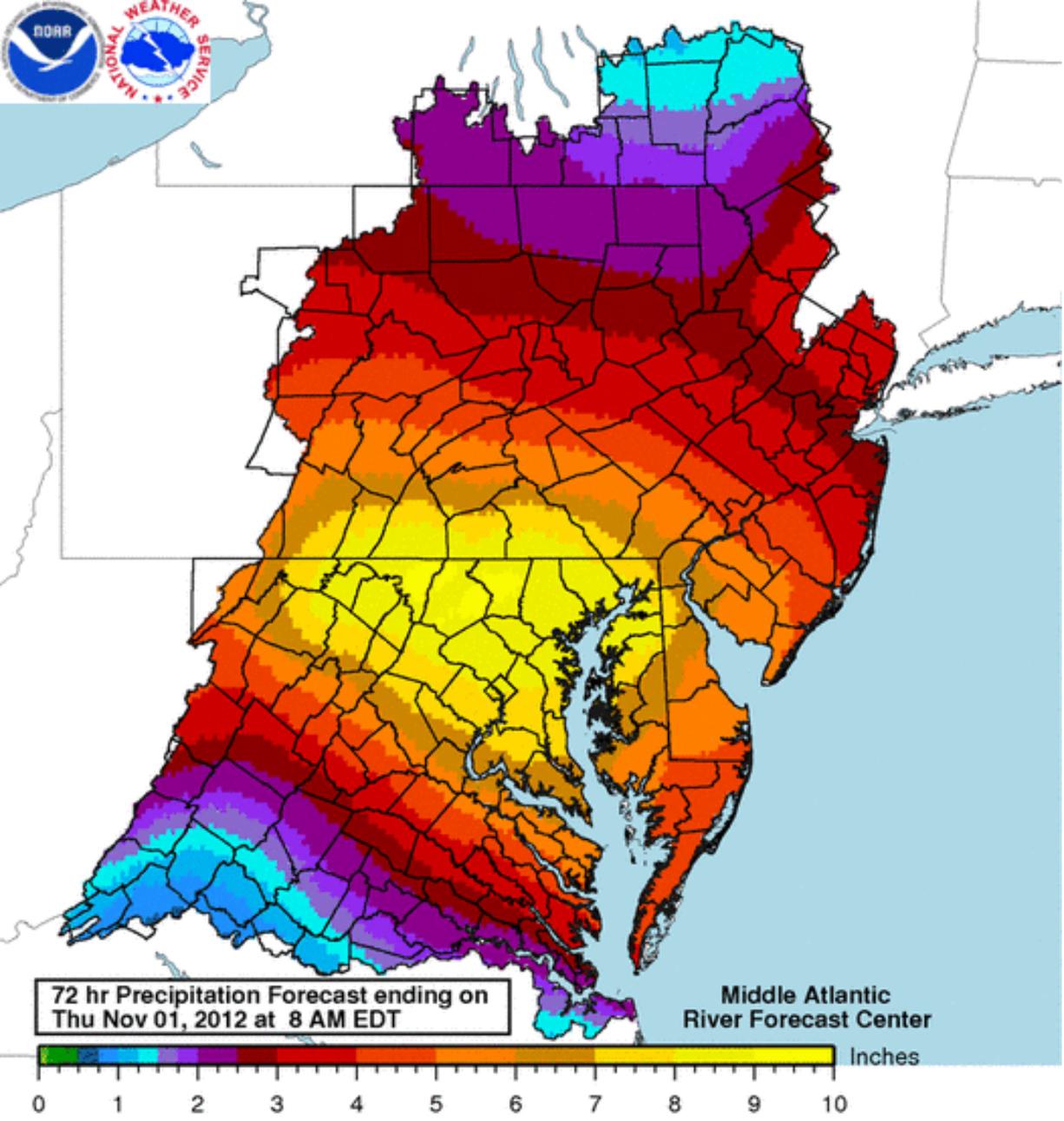
- 24 hr operations began 6am Sat.
- River forecasts are being updated every 6 hours and more frequently when needed.
- We are coordinating closely with our WFOs, USACE reservoir operations officials and other partners.

Rainfall so far



- This shows the rainfall we've received during the 24 hour period ending 7am Monday. Most of the heaviest rains have not entered the river basins MARFC forecasts...just yet. The area surrounding the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Bay have received the most so far.

7+" in spots already.



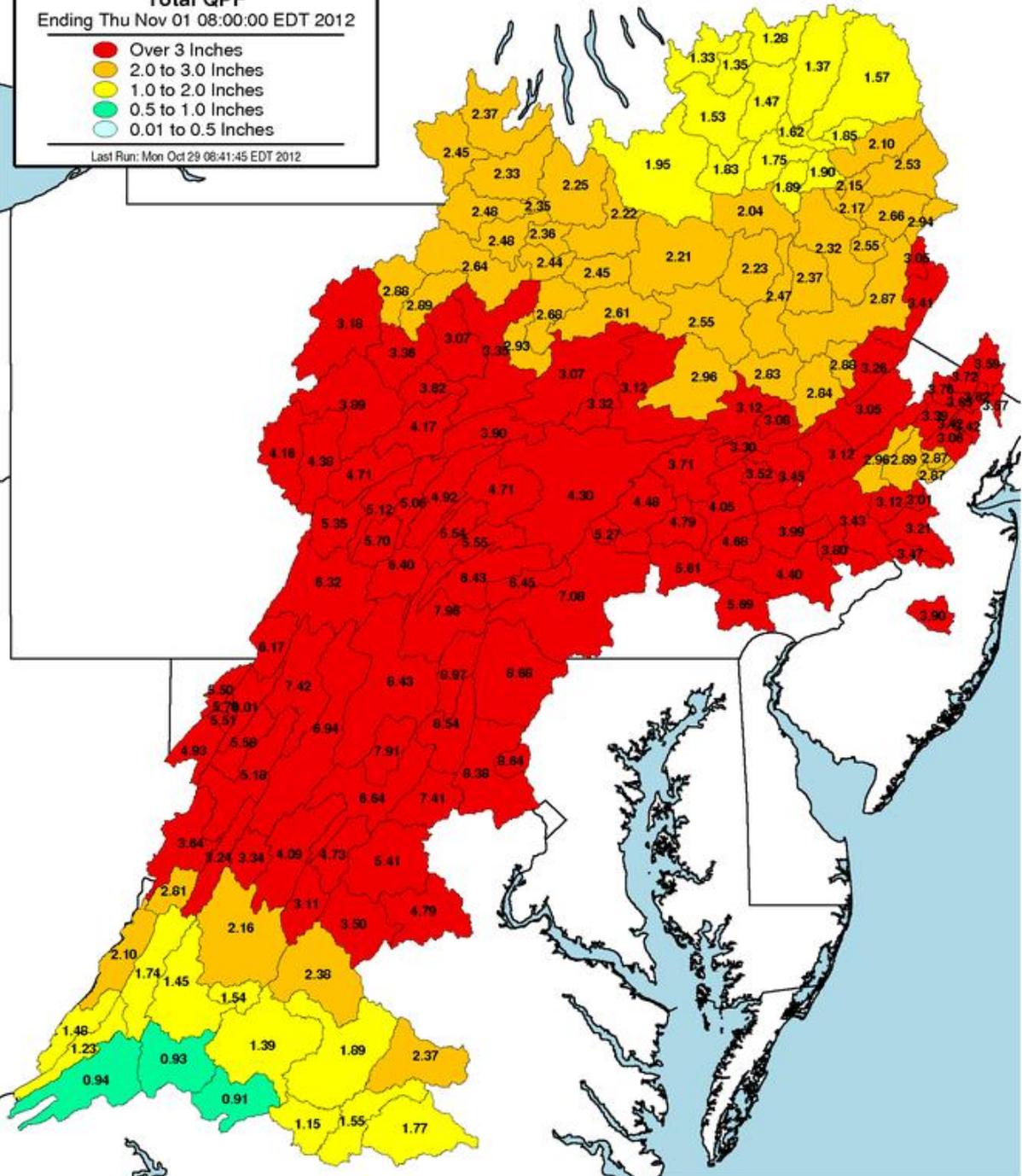
72 hour Rainfall Forecast

This was the rainfall forecast that was used in this morning's river forecasts. The Potomac Basin, in particular, is expecting extreme rainfall.

Total QPF
 Ending Thu Nov 01 08:00:00 EDT 2012

- Over 3 Inches
- 2.0 to 3.0 Inches
- 1.0 to 2.0 Inches
- 0.5 to 1.0 Inches
- 0.01 to 0.5 Inches

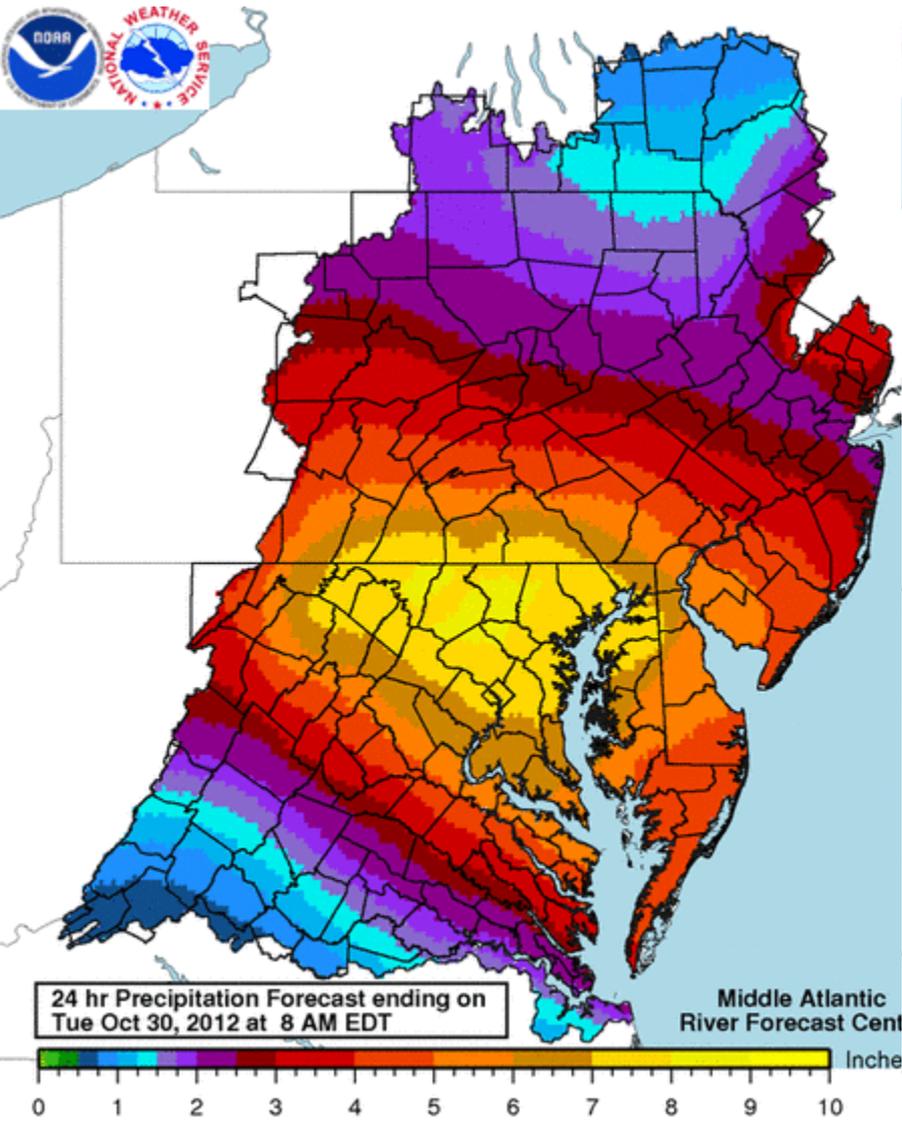
Last Run: Mon Oct 29 06:41:45 EDT 2012



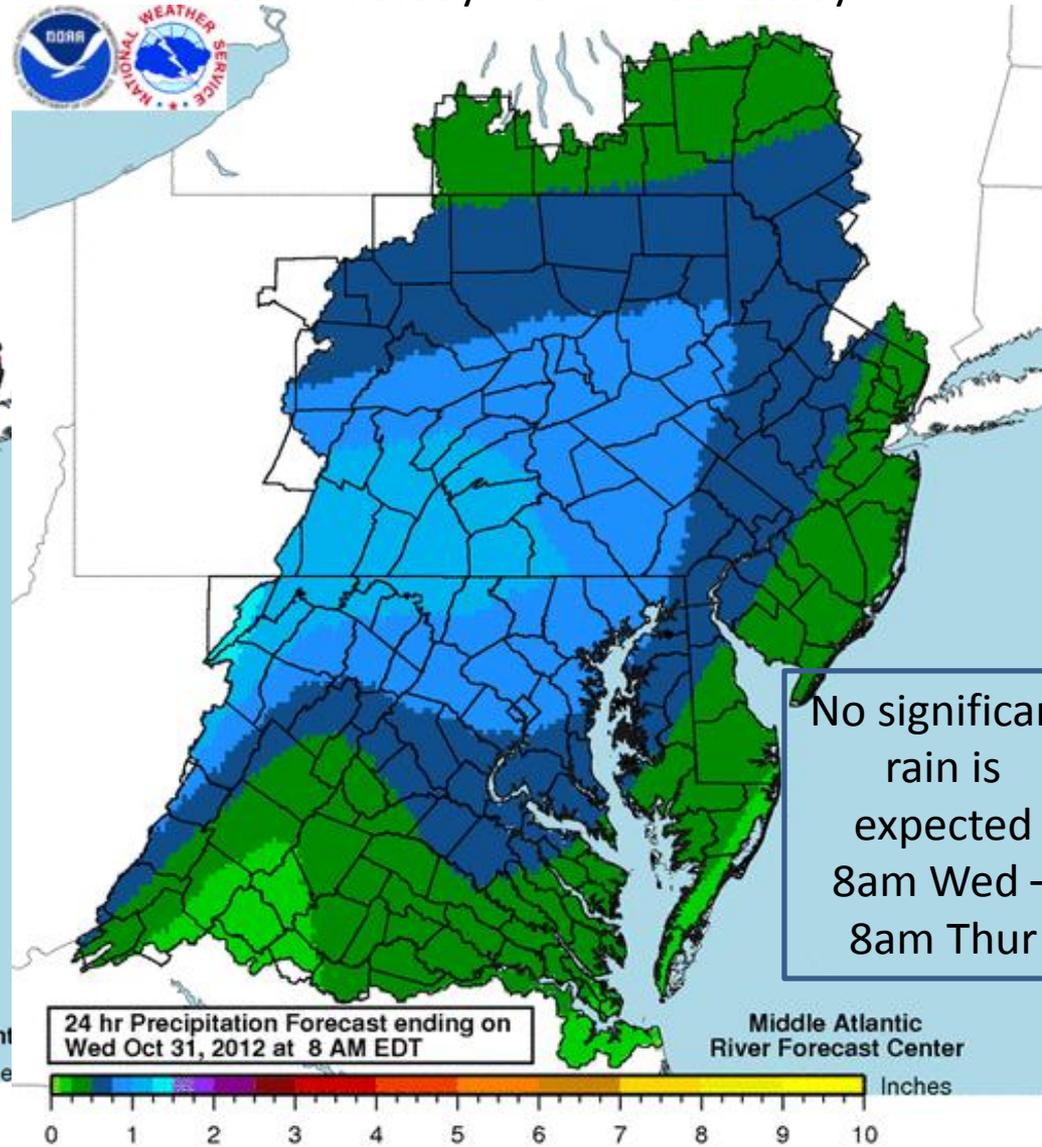
For those of you that prefer actual numbers, these are the mean areal rainfall forecasts for each of the MARFC subbasins. Near 9" basin average amounts expected in the Potomac from 8am today through 8am Thurs.

Timing of the rain

The heaviest is expected today and tonight, 8am Monday – 8am Tuesday

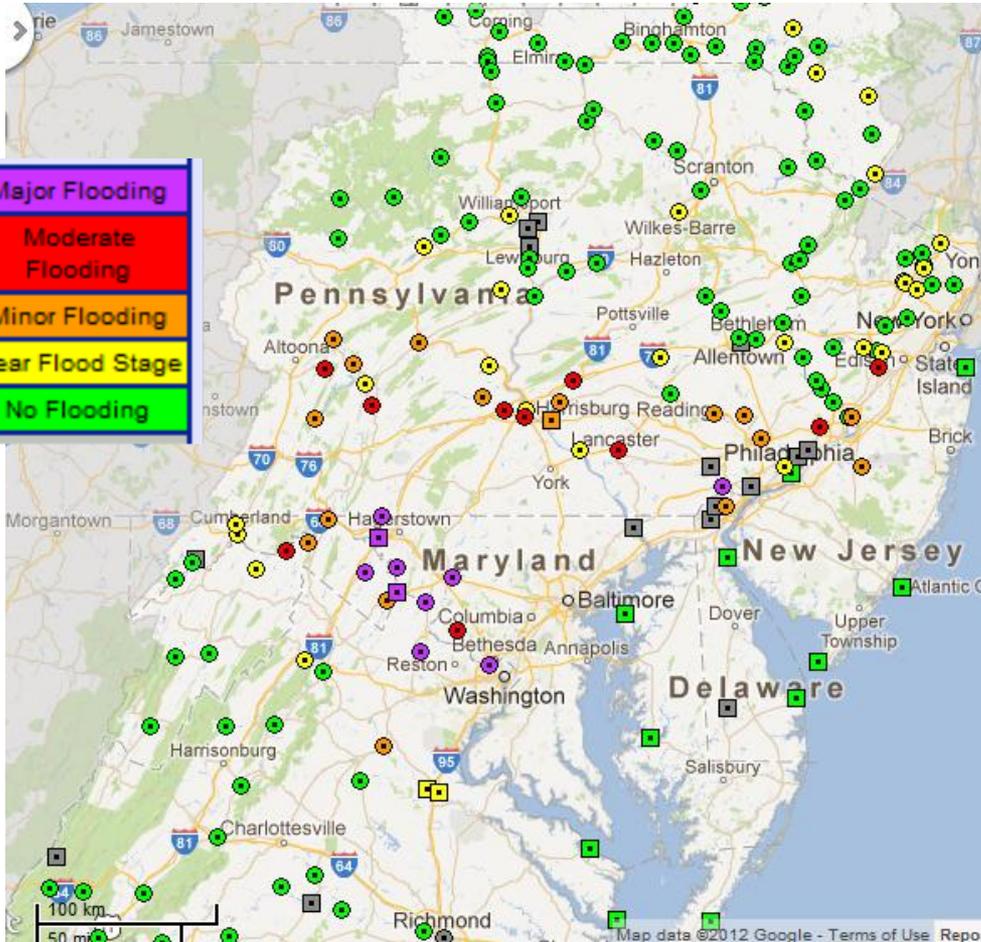


8am Tuesday – 8am Wednesday



River Forecasts

Below is a snapshot of the magnitude of flooding expected during the next 24 hours.



Please remember these forecasts are updated frequently. Monitor <http://water.weather.gov> for the latest predictions.

Summary for MARFC river forecast points only

Major Flooding is forecast at:

Fairview, MD Conococheague Ck
Williamsport, MD Potomac R
Martinsburg, WV Opequon Ck
Sharpsburg, MD Antietam Ck
Harpers Ferry, WV Potomac R
Point of Rocks, MD Potomac R
Frederick, MD Monocacy R
Leesburg, VA Goose Ck
Little Falls, MD Potomac R
Chadds Ford, PA Brandywine Ck

Moderate Flooding is forecast at:

Paw Paw, WV Potomac R
Dawsonville, MD Seneca Ck
Williamsburg, PA Frankstown Br
Juniata R
Shirleysburg, PA Aughwick Ck
Hogestown, PA Conodoguinet Ck
Camp Hill, PA Yellow Breeches Ck
Harper Tavern, PA Swatara Ck
Lancaster, PA Conestoga R
Langhorne, PA Neshaminy Ck
Blackwells Mills, NJ Millstone R

Minor flooding at many other points.

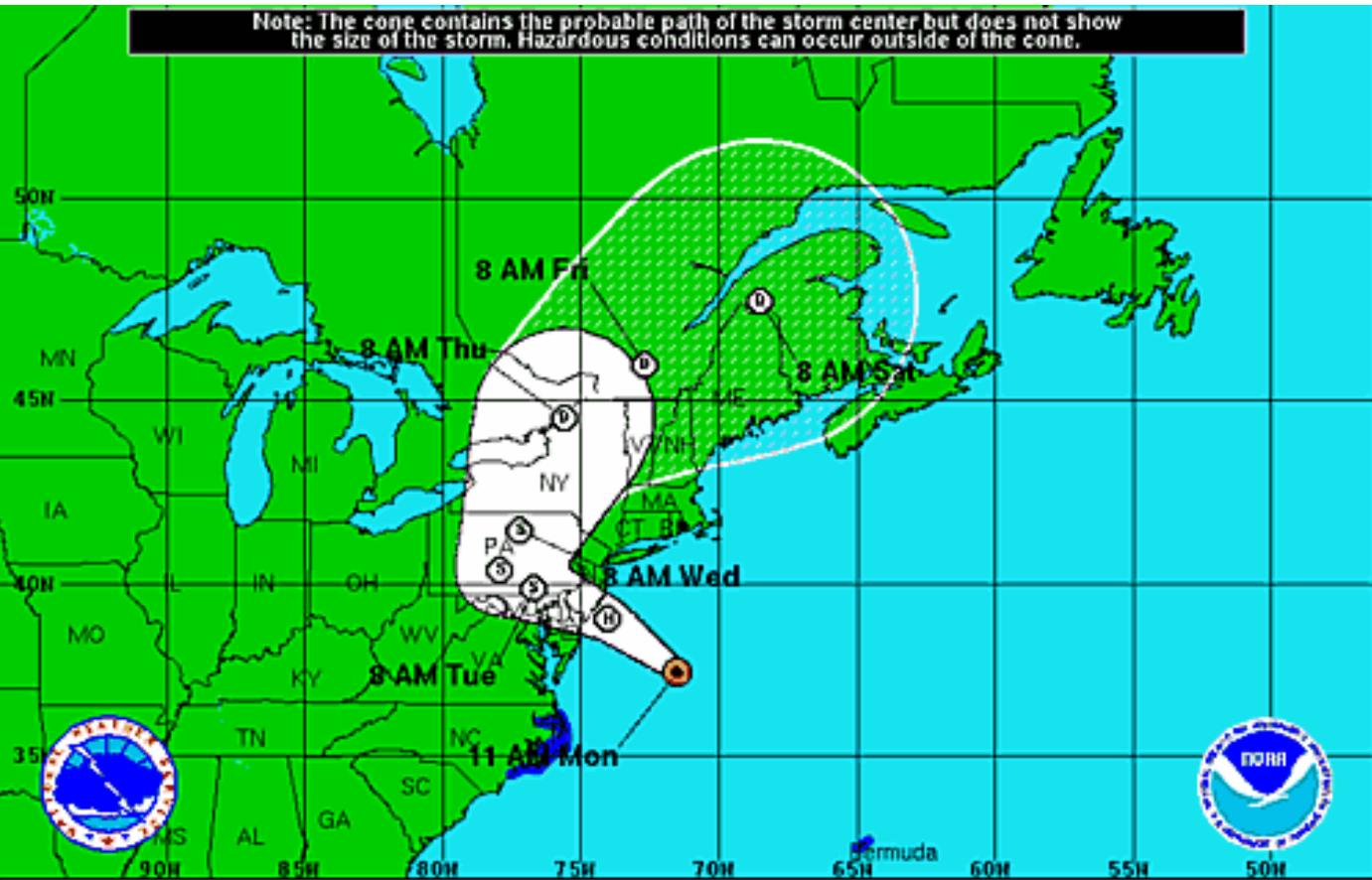
A Caution about rain gage measurements in high winds

- Rain gages will under-measure in high wind conditions because the rain is falling more sideways than straight down. A good rule of thumb that we use at MARFC is for every 10mph of wind, add an additional 10% to the rainfall that is measured by a rain gage.



Forecast for the storm center

Note: The cone contains the probable path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions can occur outside of the cone.



This was from 11 am Monday.

Remember this forecast is just for the location of the storm center. Flooding will occur outside this forecast cone.

Flooding can occur much earlier and remain long after the storm center leaves our area.

Hurricane Sandy
 Monday October 29, 2012
 11 AM EDT Advisory 29
 NWS National Hurricane Center

Current Information: ●
 Center Location 37.5 N 71.5 W
 Max Sustained Wind 90 mph
 Movement NNW at 18 mph

Forecast Positions:
 ● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical
 Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph
 S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph

Potential Track Area:
 Day 1-3 Day 4-5

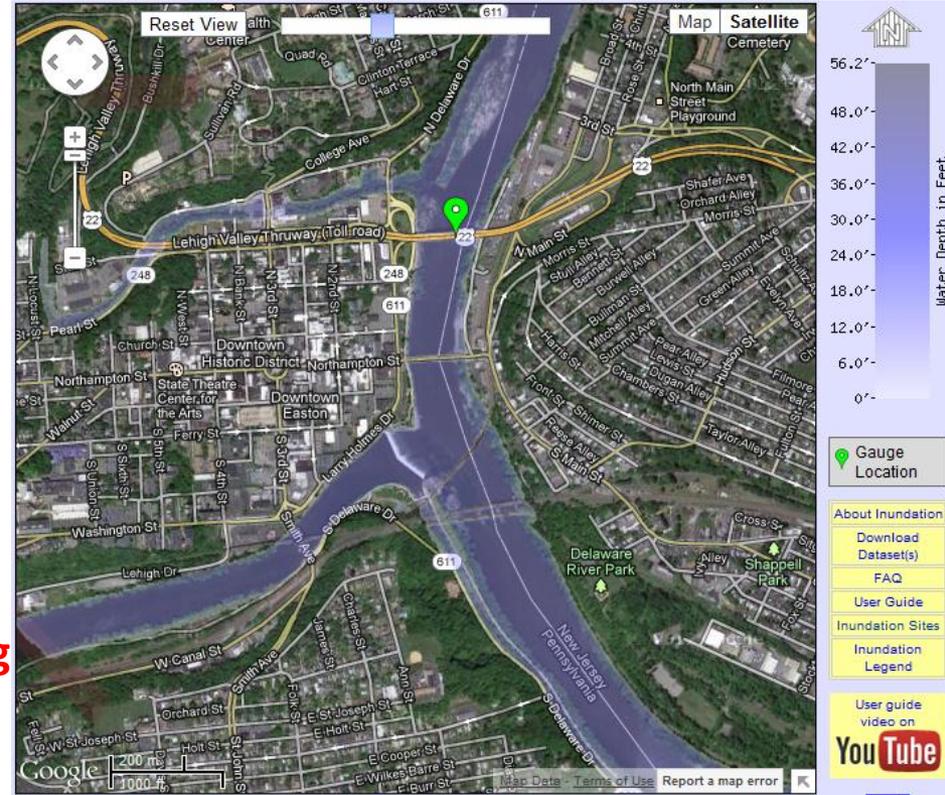
Watches:
 Hurricane Trop.Storm

Warnings:
 Hurricane Trop.Storm

Flood Inundation Maps

- Flood Inundation Maps are available on the NWS AHPS pages for:
 - Lodi, NJ
 - Jersey Shore, PA
 - Montague, NJ
 - Port Jervis, PA
 - Belvidere, NJ
 - Easton, PA
 - Frenchtown, NJ
 - New Hope, PA
 - Riegelsville, NJ
 - Stockton, NJ
 - Trenton, NJ

These are great resources for your planning purposes now. <http://water.weather.gov>



- The USGS also has flood inundation maps at: <http://wim.usgs.gov/FIMI/FloodInundationMapper.html>
- The SRBC has them too at: <http://maps.srbc.net/simv/>
- If you need any help interpreting the information, or using the AHPS flood inundation map interface, please contact MARFC or your local NWS office.

River Forecast Updates

- MARFC is updating all our river forecasts every 6 hours (11am, 4pm, 11pm, 4am).
- See the NWS AHPS website for all the forecasts:
<http://water.weather.gov>
- Please continue to monitor the AHPS website for updates through this event.
- For information on coastal flooding, flash flooding, flood watches and warnings, please listen to your local NWS Weather Forecast Office.

Need more info?

- Email patricia.wnek@noaa.gov **AND** peter.ahnert@noaa.gov
- We are also on NWSChat & 12Planet
- Follow us on Twitter @NWSMARFC
- Friend us on Facebook at: US National Weather Service Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center