



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2000

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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MICHIGAN, East

flood with two to three feet of water. The basement of city hall was damaged by flood waters in Lincoln Park, and street flooding was also widespread. In Riverview, street flooding was again widespread, with water approaching the doorsteps of some homes. A home in Riverview had its basement collapse. The Romulus area saw numerous roads flood, especially around Detroit Metropolitan Airport; numerous motorists had to be rescued from their stalled and stranded vehicles between 6 and 8 pm. Three feet of water covered Fort Street in Wyandotte. The Governor of Michigan estimated \$19 million in personal property damage in Wayne County, but said that estimate was "conservative".

Oakland County

**Waterford to
Rochester Hills**

11	1740EST 2245EST								
		0	0	10K	Flood				

Central and eastern Oakland County received an inch or so of rain on the 11th. With soils in the area soaked through from very heavy rain the day before, flooding developed quickly. The upper reaches of the Clinton River exceeded its banks in Waterford and Rochester. Street flooding worsened to the point where flood waters entered a business in Walled Lake.

Macomb County

Warren

11	1800EST								
		0	1	Lightning					

Lightning struck the ground at an athletic field as kids were rushing to leave soccer practice. One boy close to the strike was thrown to the ground. He was not seriously hurt, though he stayed overnight at a local hospital for precautionary reasons

Washtenaw County

**Ann Arbor to
Ypsilanti**

11	1810EST 2245EST								
		0	0	40K	Flood				

Water levels in Ford Lake, and its inflowing streams, resulted in erosion of the roadway along Ford Lake Dam. In addition, street flooding in the city of Ypsilanti was widespread. Ann Arbor had numerous stalled cars and flooded intersections, including a foot of water over Huron Street and Washtenaw Avenue. The heavy rain indirectly contributed to a fatality, when a female pedestrian was struck and killed by a University of Michigan bus during a blinding downpour.

A warm and muggy airmass persisted over southeast Michigan. A complex of thunderstorms moved east across northern Michigan in the early morning hours. Outflow from this thunderstorm complex moved south into southeast Michigan as a miniature cold front, and thunderstorms redeveloped along the leading edge of this outflow in the afternoon. Meanwhile, thunderstorms also developed in northeast Indiana, along the edge of a deck of low clouds. These separate areas of thunderstorms would merge over Metro Detroit in the late afternoon and early evening, producing tremendous amounts of rain. Many places had seen heavy rain the day before, and thus the area was quite vulnerable to flooding

At Detroit Metro Airport, 3.71 inches of rain fell on the 11th. This was the wettest September day ever in Detroit, and the 5th wettest day of all time. This was on top of the 1.65 inches that fell the day before. National Weather Service radar estimated around 5 inches of rain fell on the 11th in a swath from Brownstown Township to Allen Park in Wayne County. In Washtenaw County, 2.26 inches of rain fell in Ann Arbor, after 1.32 inches the previous day.

The storms had a broad impact. Over 30,000 households were affected by power outages. About one hundred flights out of Detroit Metro Airport were cancelled, and numerous people were stranded at the airport overnight due to the multitude of flooded roads in the area. A collision on Interstate 94 in Harrison Township (Macomb County) during a downpour closed the highway for two hours. Sewage overflows were common in Wayne County, as the water treatment system was quickly overwhelmed; the failure of some pumping operations due to power outages contributed to the sewer backup. Several lawsuits were filed in connection with damage caused by raw sewage.



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MICHIGAN, East

Lapeer County

5 W Metamora to Almont	22 23	2100EST 0600EST			0	0	125K		Flood
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Gravel roads were washed out in Almont and Dryden Townships. Roads were also flooded to the west, in Deerfield and Metamora Townships. Some culverts were displaced where the gravel had washed out. Annrook Park in the city of Lapeer was flooded by the Flint River. Fields were flooded and driveways washed out in Imlay City.

Oakland County

Holly	22 23	2100EST 0600EST			0	0	20K		Heavy Rain
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Grange Hall and North Holly Roads in Holly were covered with standing water. A canal connecting Simonson and Bush Lakes flooded, covering Thomas Street with water a foot deep. On the north side of Holly, several feet of water covered some yards and entered barns.

Oakland County

Holly	22	2300EST			0	0	15K		Lightning
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Lightning struck a tree, which was downed onto a nearby van, destroying it

Thunderstorms developed on the evening of the 22nd, north of a warm front that was moving north into southern Michigan. These storms produced very heavy rain in northern Oakland and southern Lapeer Counties. Holly measured 4.7 inches of rain, while Almont had 3.5 inches. Just to the south, the National Weather Service Office in White Lake had just 1.6 inches of rain. Runoff from the heavy rain resulted in localized flooding in northwest Oakland County, but flooding problems were more widespread and severe in southern Lapeer County.