

# Flood Event of 10/4/1869 - 10/4/1869

## Southeastern Pennsylvania

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Philadelphia	11.00	10/4/1869	17.00	135,000	Major	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Reading	13.00	10/4/1869	-9999.00	71,200	Missing	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Berks	Berks

## Weather Summary

The northward moving "Saxby Gale" hurricane was east of the Atlantic coastline interacted with an upper-level low pressure trough to dump copious amounts of rain along the eastern seaboard on October 2-4. During the evening hours of October 2, light rain, which would gradually become a steady downpour, began falling over Eastern PA. Rainfall at New Jersey weather stations averaged 5.00 inches and sent rivers in the northern part of the state into major flood. In Southeastern PA, a rain gauge in Lancaster County at Mount Joy measured 8.00 inches. Honesdale, PA measured 4.50 inches and NW of Philadelphia, PA measured 6.00 inches. Observer Marcus Corson, who reported the Philadelphia rain amount, added in his observational notes: "Disastrous freshet on the Schuylkill. Water 16 feet above ordinary level, higher than the great flood of January 26, 1839." adding "much property damaged."

Source: Gelber, Ben. The Pennsylvania Weather Book. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 2002. Print. and Schwartz, Rick. (2007) "Hurricanes and the Middle Atlantic

## Crest Statistics and Flood Information

First flood of 1 that occurred in Oct, 1869

First flood of 2 that occurred in 1869

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 2

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 0

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 0

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 1

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 1