

Flood Event of 2/27/1902 - 3/3/1902

Appomattox

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Mattoax	21.00	2/28/1902	-9999.00	12,000	Missing	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Amelia	Amelia

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Buchanan	17.00	3/1/1902	25.00	76,000	Moderate	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt

Juniata

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Newport	22.00	3/1/1902	25.30	118,000	Moderate	Juniata	Juniata River	Perry	Perry

Lehigh

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bethlehem	16.00	2/28/1902	24.90	88,000	Major	Lehigh	Lehigh River	Lehigh	Northampton
Lehighton	10.00	2/28/1902	20.80	-9,999	Major	Lehigh	Lehigh River	Carbon	Carbon

Main Stem Delaware

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
New Hope (Lambertville, NJ)	13.00	3/2/1902	18.30	214,000	Major	Main Stem Delaware	Delaware River	Hunterdon	Bucks
Stockton	18.00	2/28/1902	22.79	-9,999	Moderate	Main Stem Delaware	Delaware River	Hunterdon	Hunterdon

Trenton	20.00	3/2/1902	23.60	214,000	Moderate	Main Stem Delaware	Delaware River	Mercer	Mercer
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Main Stem Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bloomsburg	19.00	3/3/1902	26.90	243,000	Moderate	Upper Main Stem Susquehanna	Susquehanna River	Columbia	Columbia
Danville	20.00	3/3/1902	26.90	243,000	Moderate	Upper Main Stem Susquehanna	Susquehanna River	Montour	Montour
Harrisburg	17.00	3/3/1902	22.94	449,000	Moderate	Lower Main Stem Susquehanna	Susquehanna River	Dauphin	Dauphin
Towanda	16.00	3/2/1902	24.50	184,000	Moderate	Upper Main Stem Susquehanna	Susquehanna River	Bradford	Bradford
Wilkes-Barre	22.00	3/2/1902	31.40	213,000	Major	Upper Main Stem Susquehanna	Susquehanna River	Luzerne	Luzerne

North Branch Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Luke	10.50	2/28/1902	-9999.00	16,000	Missing	North Branch Potomac	North Branch Potomac River	Mineral	Allegany

North Branch Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Binghamton	14.00	3/2/1902	19.70	-9,999	Major	North Branch Susquehanna	North Branch Susquehanna River	Broome	Broome

Passaic

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Pompton Lakes	11.70	3/2/1902	-9999.00	7,050	Missing	Passaic	Ramapo River	Passaic	Passaic

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Harpers Ferry	18.00	3/2/1902	27.00	-9,999	Major	Potomac	Potomac River	Jefferson	Jefferson
Point of Rocks	16.00	3/2/1902	29.00	219,000	Major	Potomac	Potomac River	Frederick	Frederick
Wisconsin Ave, Washington, DC	6.00	3/2/1902	10.50	-9,999	Major	Potomac	Potomac River	Dist. of Columbia	Dist. of Columbia

Schuylkill

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Philadelphia	11.00	3/1/1902	14.80	98,000	Moderate	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Pottstown	12.50	2/28/1902	21.00	53,900	Moderate	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Montgomery	Montgomery

Shenandoah

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Front Royal	12.00	3/1/1902	23.50	76,800	Major	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Warren	Warren
Millville	13.50	2/27/1902	-9999.00	70,000	Missing	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Jefferson	Jefferson

West Branch Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Lewisburg	18.00	3/1/1902	22.30	-9,999	Minor	West Branch Susquehanna	West Branch Susquehanna River	Northumberland	Union
Lock Haven	21.00	3/1/1902	23.70	-9,999	Moderate	West Branch Susquehanna	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clinton	Clinton
Milton	19.00	3/1/1902	21.85	-9,999	Minor	West Branch Susquehanna	West Branch Susquehanna River	Union	Northumberland

Renovo	16.00	3/1/1902	17.00	-9,999	Minor	West Branch Susquehanna	West Branch Susquehanna River	Clinton	Clinton
Williamsport	20.00	3/1/1902	21.70	149,000	Moderate	West Branch Susquehanna	West Branch Susquehanna River	Lycoming	Lycoming

Weather Summary

Intense low pressure moved NNE across Lake Superior with high temperatures rising each day and eventually into the 50s, 60s and 70s. Over one inch of rain was a common amount ending Feb 28. The latter half of February brought two major winter storms, followed by heavy rain and a thaw. In eastern PA, heavy snow averaging 8 to 12 inches blanketed the region on February 16-17. A second storm brought a substantial amount of snow and ice on February 21-22 and mixed precipitation at Philadelphia totaled 1.96 inches. On February 23, rain saturated the heavy Pennsylvania snowpack and loosened great masses of ice that was lodged in waterways. As the weather thawed, rain began to fall on February 25, saturating the heavy snowpack that covered PA while loosening great masses of ice that were lodged in the waterways. Another area of heavy rainfall on February 28, deposited 1.40 inches at Philadelphia, aggravating the already serious problem of high water in the eastern part of PA. The latest rainstorm, combined with melting snow and ice, pushed rivers and streams beyond their banks again in eastern PA, including the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers. On February 28, 1.4 inches of rain fell in Philadelphia and caused the ice to break and the Lehigh, Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers to flood. The Wyoming Valley (PA) experienced the more destructive flood since 1865. Eight deaths were reported in Wilkes-Barre. – (MARFC) One of the most destructive floods in the history of the Wyoming Valley (PA) occurred on Sunday, March 2, 1902, when the waters of the Susquehanna River rose and flooded a vast developed area. It was the largest flood since the Great Flood of 1865. Eight deaths were reported in Wilkes-Barre. The temperature suddenly rose and snow which had covered much of the Susquehanna's watershed melted. At the same time, more than two inches of rain fell within a short period. The combined melted snow and rain caused the river to rise rapidly and the ice to break on February 28. All day Saturday, March 1, the river rose, until Sunday when it crested at thirty-one feet above the low water mark. From The Pennsylvania Weather Book by Ben Gelber.

Source: Gelber, Ben. The Pennsylvania Weather Book. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 2002. Print.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

Second flood of 2 that occurred in Feb, 1902

Second flood of 2 that occurred in 1902

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 28

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 3

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 12

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 9

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 4