

Flood Event of 5/30/1971 - 6/2/1971

Appomattox

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Farmville	16.00	5/31/1971	17.41	6,720	Minor	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Cumberland	Prince Edward
Matoaca	10.00	5/31/1971	10.70	10,500	Minor	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Chesterfield	Chesterfield
Mattoax	21.00	6/2/1971	24.34	8,970	Minor	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Amelia	Amelia

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bent Creek	16.00	5/31/1971	16.31	59,200	Minor	James	James River	Nelson	Appomattox
Bremo Bluff	19.00	6/1/1971	24.30	63,300	Moderate	James	James River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Buchanan	17.00	5/31/1971	19.07	46,600	Minor	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Cartersville	20.00	6/1/1971	21.51	79,400	Minor	James	James River	Goochland	Cumberland
Holcomb Rock	22.00	5/31/1971	22.62	61,600	Minor	James	James River	Bedford	Bedford
Lick Run	16.00	5/31/1971	19.17	32,700	Minor	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Palmyra	17.00	5/31/1971	23.39	21,000	Minor	James	Rivanna River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Richmond	12.00	6/1/1971	17.02	88,500	Moderate	James	James River	Henrico	Independent City

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
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Martinsburg 10.00 5/31/1971 11.02 3,630 Minor Potomac Opequon Creek Berkeley Berkeley

Shenandoah

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Front Royal	12.00	5/31/1971	17.86	46,600	Moderate	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Warren	Warren
Lynnwood	16.00	5/30/1971	19.43	31,700	Moderate	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Rockingham	Rockingham
Millville	13.50	6/1/1971	17.04	61,300	Major	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Jefferson	Jefferson
Waynesboro	9.50	5/30/1971	9.99	5,690	Minor	Shenandoah	South River	Augusta	Independent City

Weather Summary

A coastal low pressure system formed along a lingering weak cold front off of the Virginia coastline in late May. The low paralleled the coast as it moved northward, and in the process it dumped 1.00 to 3.00 inches of rain over Virginia and West Virginia. This heavy rainfall caused flooding across the Potomac, Shenandoah, James, and Appomattox River Basins.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

Second flood of 2 that occurred in May, 1971

Ninth flood of 17 that occurred in 1971

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 16

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 11

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 4

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 1

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 0