

Flood Event of 10/5/1972 - 10/8/1972

Appomattox

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Farmville	16.00	10/6/1972	19.14	7,680	Minor	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Cumberland	Prince Edward
Matoaca	10.00	10/7/1972	18.39	40,800	Major	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Chesterfield	Chesterfield
Mattoax	21.00	10/7/1972	31.10	22,400	Major	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Amelia	Amelia

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bremo Bluff	19.00	10/6/1972	29.80	99,200	Moderate	James	James River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Cartersville	20.00	10/6/1972	27.12	131,000	Major	James	James River	Goochland	Cumberland
Palmyra	17.00	10/6/1972	31.07	45,800	Moderate	James	Rivanna River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Richmond	12.00	10/7/1972	21.76	162,000	Moderate	James	James River	Henrico	Independent City
Scottsville	20.00	10/6/1972	23.24	97,600	Moderate	James	James River	Albemarle	Albermarle

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Point of Rocks	16.00	10/8/1972	18.28	106,000	Minor	Potomac	Potomac River	Frederick	Frederick

Rappahannock

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
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Culpeper	14.00	10/6/1972	26.23	42,400	Major	Rappahannock	Rapidan River	Culpeper	Culpeper
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Shenandoah

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Cootes Store	15.00	10/5/1972	19.50	26,400	Moderate	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Rockingham	Rockingham
Front Royal	12.00	10/7/1972	21.35	62,500	Major	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Warren	Warren
Lynnwood	16.00	10/6/1972	21.92	42,600	Major	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Rockingham	Rockingham
Millville	13.50	10/7/1972	20.02	86,200	Major	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Jefferson	Jefferson
Strasburg	17.00	10/6/1972	23.48	35,700	Moderate	Shenandoah	North Fork Shenandoah River	Warren	Shenandoah
Waynesboro	9.50	10/5/1972	11.41	8,040	Moderate	Shenandoah	South River	Augusta	Independent City

South Branch Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Moorefield	10.00	10/6/1972	11.56	18,000	Minor	South Branch Potomac	South Fork South Branch Potomac River	Hardy	Hardy
Petersburg	10.00	10/6/1972	16.16	32,100	Major	South Branch Potomac	South Branch Potomac River	Grant	Grant
Springfield	15.00	10/6/1972	21.11	46,100	Moderate	South Branch Potomac	South Branch Potomac River	Hampshire	Hampshire

Weather Summary

A weak low pressure system over the southeast and an approaching cold front produced torrential rainfall across the Mid-Atlantic. Six to eight inches of rain fell in 24 hours across the Central Shenandoah Valley. Rainfall totals reached as high as 11.00 inches by the time the front had moved through the area on the 8th. Before that time, however, the low moved off the coastline and began to intensify. As the front approached from the east on the 7th, this coastal low dumped several of inches of rain over the DELMARVA peninsula and coastal New Jersey. As a result, additional flooding occurred in the Delaware and Potomac Basins.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

First flood of 1 that occurred in Oct, 1972

Fifteenth flood of 20 that occurred in 1972

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 19

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 3

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 8

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 8

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 0