

Flood Event of 2/24/1979 - 2/27/1979

Appomattox

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Farmville	16.00	2/25/1979	21.79	13,400	Moderate	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Cumberland	Prince Edward
Matoaca	10.00	2/26/1979	14.37	22,000	Moderate	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Chesterfield	Chesterfield
Mattoax	21.00	2/26/1979	30.84	21,600	Major	Appomattox	Appomattox River	Amelia	Amelia

Brandywine

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Wilmington	11.00	2/26/1979	11.37	15,300	Minor	Christina	Brandywine Creek	New Castle	New Castle

Delaware

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Pemberton	2.70	2/26/1979	3.79	1,660	Moderate	Delaware	North Branch Rancocas Creek	Burlington	Burlington
Trenton	8.50	2/26/1979	10.27	2,610	Moderate	Delaware	Assunpink Creek	Mercer	Mercer

James

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Bent Creek	16.00	2/26/1979	18.37	75,300	Minor	James	James River	Nelson	Appomattox
Bremo Bluff	19.00	2/26/1979	30.00	100,700	Moderate	James	James River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Buchanan	17.00	2/25/1979	19.91	50,600	Minor	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt

Cartersville	20.00	2/26/1979	26.33	123,000	Moderate	James	James River	Goochland	Cumberland
Holcomb Rock	22.00	2/26/1979	24.56	73,300	Moderate	James	James River	Bedford	Bedford
Lick Run	16.00	2/25/1979	18.04	29,400	Minor	James	James River	Botetourt	Botetourt
Palmyra	17.00	2/26/1979	23.58	21,000	Minor	James	Rivanna River	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Richmond	12.00	2/27/1979	20.38	138,000	Moderate	James	James River	Henrico	Independent City
Scottsville	20.00	2/26/1979	22.63	92,300	Moderate	James	James River	Albemarle	Albermarle

Juniata

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Saxton	17.00	2/26/1979	18.35	42,900	Minor	Juniata	Raystown Branch Juniata River	Bedford	Bedford

Lehigh

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Walnutport	8.00	2/24/1979	10.88	34,700	Minor	Lehigh	Lehigh River	Northampton	Northampton

Main Stem Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Camp Hill	7.00	2/26/1979	9.28	4,360	Moderate	Yellow Breeches	Yellow Breeches Creek	Cumberland	Cumberland
Harper Tavern	9.00	2/26/1979	11.42	10,700	Minor	Swatara	Swatara Creek	Lebanon	Lebanon
Harper Tavern	9.00	2/24/1979	10.53	9,340	Minor	Swatara	Swatara Creek	Lebanon	Lebanon
Hershey	7.00	2/26/1979	8.94	12,900	Minor	Swatara	Swatara Creek	Dauphin	Dauphin

Hogestown	8.00	2/26/1979	9.93	-9,999	Minor	Conodoguinet	Conodoguinet Creek	Cumberland	Cumberland
Lancaster	11.00	2/26/1979	13.87	12,900	Moderate	Conestoga	Conestoga River	Lancaster	Lancaster
Penns Creek	8.00	2/26/1979	13.00	-9,999	Major	Penns Creek	Penns Creek	Snyder	Snyder
Shermans Dale	9.00	2/25/1979	11.00	-9,999	Moderate	Lower Main Stem Susquehanna	Sherman Creek	Perry	Perry
Shermans Dale	9.00	2/26/1979	9.21	6,820	Minor	Lower Main Stem Susquehanna	Sherman Creek	Perry	Perry

Neshaminy

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Langhorne	9.00	2/26/1979	12.06	12,600	Major	Neshaminy	Neshaminy Creek	Bucks	Bucks
Langhorne	9.00	2/25/1979	11.11	10,700	Moderate	Neshaminy	Neshaminy Creek	Bucks	Bucks

North Branch Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Conklin	11.00	2/26/1979	11.04	-9,999	Minor	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
Chatham	6.00	2/26/1979	6.88	1,710	Minor	Passaic	Passaic River	Morris	Morris
Millington	8.00	2/26/1979	8.19	1,080	Minor	Passaic	Passaic River	Somerset	Morris

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
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Frederick	15.00	2/26/1979	19.40	26,800	Moderate	Potomac	Monocacy River at Jug Bridge	Frederick	Frederick
Great Cacapon	9.00	2/26/1979	13.69	16,600	Minor	Potomac	Cacapon River	Morgan	Morgan
Leesburg	12.00	2/26/1979	16.36	14,300	Moderate	Potomac	Goose Creek	Loudoun	Loudoun
Little Falls (Washington DC)	10.00	2/26/1979	13.12	206,000	Moderate	Potomac	Potomac River	Montgomery	Montgomery
Martinsburg	10.00	2/26/1979	12.54	6,130	Minor	Potomac	Opequon Creek	Berkeley	Berkeley
Paw Paw	25.00	2/26/1979	29.13	65,300	Moderate	Potomac	Potomac River	Allegany	Morgan
Point of Rocks	16.00	2/27/1979	25.94	178,000	Major	Potomac	Potomac River	Frederick	Frederick
Shepherdstown	15.00	2/27/1979	23.60	110,000	Major	Potomac	Potomac River	Jefferson	Jefferson

Rappahannock

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Culpeper	14.00	2/26/1979	15.41	11,800	Minor	Rappahannock	Rapidan River	Culpeper	Culpeper
Remington	15.00	2/26/1979	18.46	21,600	Minor	Rappahannock	Rappahannock River	Fauquier	Fauquier

Raritan

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Blackwells Mills	9.00	2/26/1979	12.87	9,000	Moderate	Raritan	Millstone River	Somerset	Somerset
Bound Brook	28.00	2/26/1979	31.18	29,600	Moderate	Raritan	Raritan River below Calco Dam	Somerset	Somerset
Manville	14.00	2/26/1979	16.45	18,000	Minor	Raritan	Raritan River	Somerset	Somerset

Schuylkill

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Philadelphia	11.00	2/26/1979	11.54	52,300	Minor	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Pottstown	13.00	2/26/1979	14.47	29,500	Minor	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Montgomery	Montgomery
Reading	13.00	2/26/1979	13.43	25,600	Minor	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Berks	Berks

Shenandoah

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Front Royal	12.00	2/26/1979	14.43	33,100	Moderate	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Warren	Warren
Millville	13.50	2/26/1979	16.03	54,200	Moderate	Shenandoah	Shenandoah River	Jefferson	Jefferson

South Branch Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Petersburg	10.00	2/26/1979	11.90	16,800	Minor	South Branch Potomac	South Branch Potomac River	Grant	Grant
Springfield	15.00	2/26/1979	19.17	34,200	Moderate	South Branch Potomac	South Branch Potomac River	Hampshire	Hampshire

Weather Summary

A low pressure system brought heavy rain to much of the Mid-Atlantic as it moved from the center of the country and through the Great Lakes. As the low pushed off to the northeast, a secondary low formed along the remaining fronts in the southeastern United States. This secondary low cut through the eastern third of the country on the 26th and 27th before it finally went out to sea. These lows brought some snow to the region, but without a strong cold air mass in place, heavy rain showers dumped between 1.00 and 4.00 inches across the Mid-Atlantic. These lows came through the area only days after a very significant near-blizzard coastal storm dumped 16-24" of snow across the region. Therefore, several inches of snow melted when this system moved through, adding to the already high rainfall totals. All of this water ended up causing widespread flooding throughout the entire region.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

First flood of 1 that occurred in Feb, 1979

Fourth flood of 16 that occurred in 1979

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 51

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 24

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 22

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 5

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 0