

Flood Event of 5/19/1988 - 5/22/1988

Chemung

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Mansfield	12.00	5/19/1988	14.62	9,300	Major	Chemung	Tioga River	Tioga	Tioga

Lower Main Stem Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Harper Tavern	9.00	5/20/1988	11.93	11,400	Minor	Swatara	Swatara Creek	Lebanon	Lebanon
Hershey	7.00	5/20/1988	8.02	10,600	Minor	Swatara	Swatara Creek	Dauphin	Dauphin
Lancaster	11.00	5/19/1988	12.11	9,600	Minor	Conestoga	Conestoga River	Lancaster	Lancaster
Middletown (Old Site)	11.00	5/22/1988	12.20	-9,999	Minor	Main Stem Susquehanna	Swatara Creek	Dauphin	Dauphin
Penns Creek	8.00	5/19/1988	8.61	6,540	Minor	Susquehanna	Penns Creek	Union	Snyder

North Branch Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Conklin	11.00	5/20/1988	11.49	21,500	Minor	North Branch Susquehanna	North Branch Susquehanna River	Broome	Broome
Waverly	11.00	5/20/1988	11.40	47,100	Minor	North Branch Susquehanna	North Branch Susquehanna River	Tioga	Tioga

Potomac

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Dawsonville	7.50	5/19/1988	9.81	7,410	Minor	Potomac	Seneca Creek	Montgomery	Montgomery

Fairview	10.00	5/19/1988	10.56	8,330	Minor	Potomac	Conococheague Creek	Washington	Washington
Frederick	15.00	5/19/1988	18.47	23,300	Moderate	Potomac	Monocacy River at Jug Bridge	Frederick	Frederick
Martinsburg	10.00	5/21/1988	12.16	5,450	Minor	Potomac	Opequon Creek	Berkeley	Berkeley
Martinsburg	10.00	5/19/1988	16.29	15,500	Major	Potomac	Opequon Creek	Berkeley	Berkeley
Point of Rocks	16.00	5/20/1988	17.01	96,100	Minor	Potomac	Potomac River	Frederick	Frederick
Shepherdstown	15.00	5/19/1988	18.19	72,300	Moderate	Potomac	Potomac River	Jefferson	Jefferson

Southeastern Pennsylvania

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Berne	12.00	5/19/1988	12.18	15,500	Minor	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Berks	Berks
Chadds Ford	9.00	5/19/1988	9.29	5,640	Minor	Delaware	Brandywine Creek	Delaware	Delaware
Reading	13.00	5/19/1988	13.64	21,700	Minor	Schuylkill	Schuylkill River	Berks	Berks

West Branch Susquehanna

Site	Flood Stage	Date	Crest	Flow	Category	Basin	Stream	County of Gage	County of Forecast Point
Beech Creek Station	11.00	5/19/1988	11.46	5,060	Minor	West Branch Susquehanna	Bald Eagle Creek	Clinton	Clinton

Weather Summary

A low pressure system over the Great Lakes and its associated cold and warm fronts produced heavy rain showers and thunderstorms on the 15th and 16th of May. These thunderstorms produced hail, damaging winds, and torrential downpours. The system moved to the northeast and left the region on the 17th. A secondary low formed off of the coast, and rain continued to fall through the 20th as it meandered over the Mid-Atlantic. Rainfall totals for these two systems ranged from 1.00 to 3.00 inches with much higher amounts in areas that were directly affected by thunderstorms on the 15th and 16th. The high rainfall totals led to widespread flooding across the region's rivers with smaller streams reaching major flood stage.

Crest Statistics and Flood Information

Second flood of 2 that occurred in May, 1988

Fourth flood of 10 that occurred in 1988

Number of Floods at MARFC Forecast Points - 19

Number of Floods Cresting in Minor Range - 15

Number of Floods Cresting in Moderate Range - 2

Number of Floods Cresting in Major Range - 2

Number of Floods Cresting in Missing Range - 0