

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - November 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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GULF OF MEXICO

LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 3.5 WNW PORT ISABEL [26.09, -97.25], 3.5 WNW PORT ISABEL [26.08, -97.25]

11/07/08 12:03 CST	0	Waterspout
11/07/08 12:09 CST	0	Source: Public

A developing, brief strong thunderstorm produced a waterspout just northeast of Laguna Heights, which moved south southwest and reached land before quickly dissipating. No damage was reported.

Deep moisture lifted by west moving boundaries from weakening storms in the nearshore waters east of South Padre Island likely contributed to the development of a small storm just northeast of Laguna Heights. A brief waterspout formed, according to witnesses, and quickly moved onshore as a weak tornado before dissipating.

TEXAS, South

CAMERON COUNTY --- 1.0 E BAYSIDE [26.08, -97.25], 0.9 E BAYSIDE [26.08, -97.26]

11/07/08 12:10 CST	1K	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.24 mi , W: 15 yd)
11/07/08 12:11 CST	0	Source: Public

A waterspout moved from the Laguna Madre through the small town of Laguna Heights shortly after noon on November 7th, knocking out power to a very small part of town, including at Bayside Marine at the intersection of Roy St. and SR 100, where witnesses saw the funnel knock down power lines and eventually pick up debris in fields just west of town before dissipating. Peak winds were estimated to be around 55 mph.

A survey indicated a few medium to large limbs blown down, as well as turned up aluminum facia on two older, trailer-style mobile homes.

A rapidly developing storm cell, likely aided by convergence from outflow boundaries of earlier cells in the nearshore waters east of South Padre Island, and a developing Gulf Coast sea breeze, produced a quick-hitting waterspout which moved ashore in Laguna Heights before dissipating at the south edge of town.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 2.0 SW DONNA [26.15, -98.07], ALAMO [26.18, -98.12]

11/13/08 08:05 CST	1K	Hail (0.88 in)
11/13/08 08:25 CST	0	Source: Broadcast Media

A severe thunderstorm with a pronounced hail core rolled through the Donna-Alamo area during the mid morning, dropping large hail in several areas. Nickel size hail fell along the federal highway 83 expressway in Donna, shattering at least one automobile windshield. Penny size hail fell a bit later in and near Alamo. In addition to the hail, 2.2 inches of rain fell near the Alamo Country Club in a short period of time, probably less than an hour.

The parent left-moving thunderstorm began across the Rio Grande in northern Mexico a little before 7 AM CST, and moved into extreme southern Hidalgo County near the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge around 730 AM. Large hail may well have occurred along this portion of the path, as well as northwest of Donna toward Edinburg, between 830 and 9 AM.

CAMERON COUNTY --- (BRO)BROWNSVILLE ARP [25.92, -97.42], LAGUNA VISTA [26.10, -97.30]

11/13/08 09:00 CST	0	Heavy Rain
11/13/08 10:45 CST	0	Source: ASOS

Locally heavy rains accompanied several thunderstorms that affected the Brownsville-Port Isabel and Laguna Vista area during much of the day on the 13th. The heaviest rains, dropping more than an inch in an hour, occurred generally between 9 and 1045 AM drifting northeast from the southeast portion of Brownsville toward Port Isabel and Laguna Vista.

Typical poor drainage flooding was likely observed on portions of Boca Chica Blvd. mainly east of the highway 77 expressway in Brownsville.

Calendar day rain totals at Brownsville/International Airport and Cameron County Airport (Bayview) were 2.76 and 3.05 inches, respectively.

CAMERON COUNTY --- 1.2 NE STUART PLACE [26.19, -97.75], 1.1 WNW ARROYO [26.20, -97.65]

11/13/08 12:15 CST	0	Heavy Rain
11/13/08 13:15 CST	0	Source: Newspaper

Another in a round of locally heavy thunderstorms moved across Harlingen during the lunch hour, creating several instances of nuisance minor flooding. Radar estimated of up to 2 inches of rain caused high standing water at the intersection of North "A" Street and New Combes Highway, with other ponding along 77 Sunshine Strip.

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ZAPATA COUNTY --- 1.8 NNE ZAPATA ARPT [26.90, -99.27]

11/13/08 19:00 CST

0

Hail (0.75 in)

11/13/08 19:15 CST

0

Source: Law Enforcement

The sheriff's Department reported dime to penny sized hail occurring at the sheriff's office in Zapata during a severe thunderstorm which was moving over their office.

A dissipating cold front combined with an upper level disturbance and moist flow from the Gulf of Mexico, acted on increasingly unstable air just above the surface to produced several periods of strong thunderstorms from early morning through mid evening of November 13th. Some of the storms became severe, dropping large hail during the mid morning and evening hours; heavy rainfall adding up to more than 3 inches in portions of Cameron County, with pockets of heavy rain elsewhere in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, produced nuisance minor flooding.