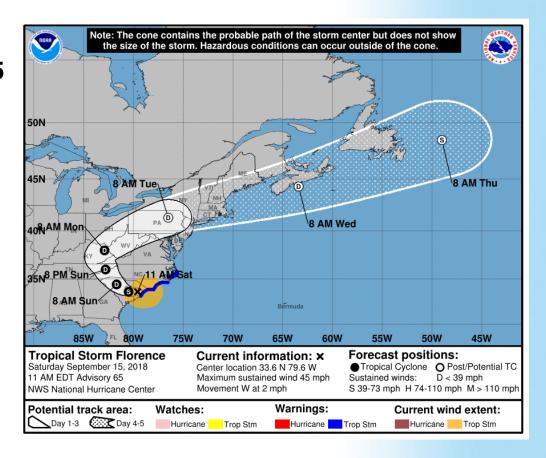




# Mid-Atlantic Flood Potential from Tropical Storm Florence

**Decision Support Briefing As of: Noon, September 15** 













# **Main Points**

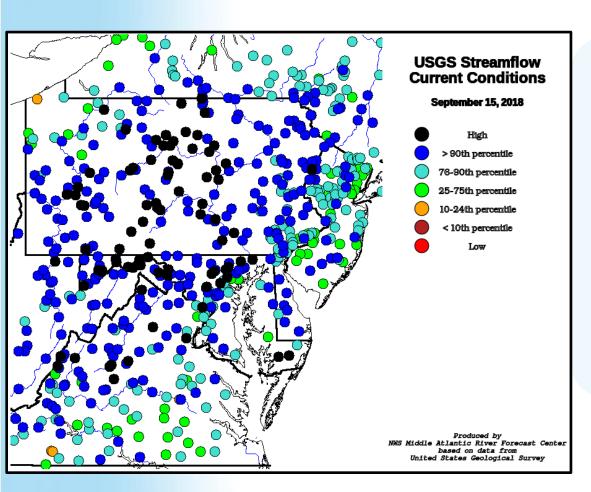
HAZARD:	Heavy Rain and River Flooding
IMPACTS:	There is a potential for moderate or greater river flooding
LOCATION:	Heaviest rains are expected along the mountains in western Virginia and West Virginia. Rivers that might be impacted include the Potomac, James, and Shenandoah river basins. However, due to high river levels and soil moisture, almost all rivers in the Mid-Atlantic have some flood potential if rainfall is somewhat higher than expected
TIMING:	Heaviest rains will begin from the southwest later Sunday and will move through the region by Wednesday. Highest river levels would be expected Monday-Tuesday and could continue into later in the week
NOTES:	Focus of this briefing is larger river systems. Small stream and coastal / tidal flooding is also likely from this rainfall







## **Current River Conditions**



- ✓ With the heavy rain over much of the summer, river flows are currently well above normal levels in September
- ✓ Soils are also very wet particularly in Pennsylvania, Maryland and northern Virginia which will lead to high runoff rates

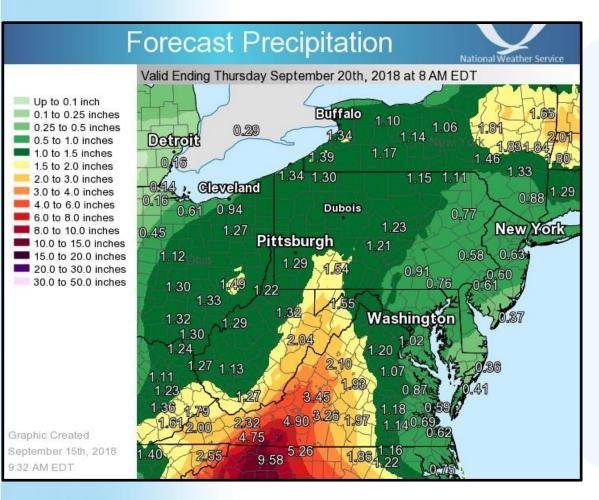








# 5-Day Forecast Precipitation



- 5 day rainfall forecast from the NWS Weather Prediction Center
- Heaviest amounts along Appalachian Mtn chain
- ✓ Heaviest rains start in SW

  Virginia late Sunday moving out

  of New York on Wednesday
- ✓ A lot of uncertainty with forecast amounts and highly tied to track of storm. There will likely be locally heavier amounts









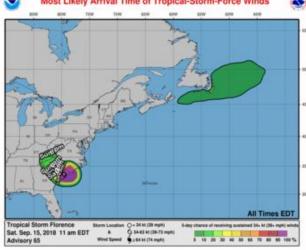


#### **Key Messages for Tropical Storm Florence** Advisory 65: 11:00 AM EDT Sat Sep 15, 2018



- Life-threatening storm surge will continue along portions of the North Carolina coast through today, and also along the Neuse and Pamlico Rivers in western Pamlico Sound, where rainfall and freshwater flooding will also contribute to high water levels. Dangerous storm surge could also affect portions of the northeast coast of South Carolina coast today.
- 2. Life-threatening, catastrophic flash floods and prolonged significant river flooding are likely over portions of the Carolinas and the southern to central Appalachians from western North Carolina into west-central Virginia and far eastern West Virginia through early next week, as Florence moves slowly inland. In addition to the flash flood and flooding threat, landslides are also possible in the higher terrain of the southern and central Appalachians across western North Carolina into southwest Virginia.
- 3. Tropical storm conditions will continue along the coast within the tropical storm warning area and also well inland across portions of South Carolina and North Carolina today.
- 4. Large swells affecting Bermuda, portions of the U.S. East Coast, and the northwestern and central Bahamas will continue this week, resulting in life-threatening surf and rip currents.





For more information go to hurricanes.gov



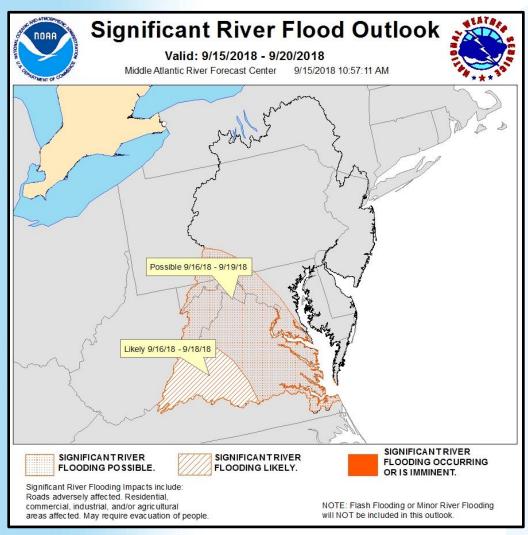








# **5 Day Flood Outlook**



- ✓ We are not currently forecasting flooding at any of our forecast locations prior to Tuesday morning. Flooding is possible beginning Tuesday
- ✓ River basins at highest risk due to the heavy rainfall
  - √ James River
  - ✓ Potomac River
  - ✓ Shenandoah River
- ✓ However given current river and soil moisture conditions we will need to monitor all rivers for possible flooding
- ✓ Local small stream, urban, and coastal/tidal flooding is also likely











## **Latest Forecast Information**

Information in this briefing package may change with updated forecast information. Please refer to the offices below for the latest official forecasts

Office	Web Page	Social Media
Binghamton, NY	http://weather.gov/bgm	@NWSBinghamton
Blacksburg, VA	http://weather.gov/rnk	@NWSBlacksburg
Mount Holly, NJ	http://weather.gov/phi	@NWS_MountHolly
State College, PA	http://weather.gov/ctp	@NWSStateCollege
New York City, NY	http://weather.gov/okx	@NWSNewYorkNY
Sterling, VA	http://weather.gov/lwx	@NWS_BaltWash
Wakefield, VA	http://weather.gov.akq	@NWSWakefieldVA

Forecasts also available on the AHPS web site: <a href="http://water.weather.gov">http://water.weather.gov</a>
Or the MARFC web site: <a href="http://www.weather.gov/marfc">http://www.weather.gov/marfc</a>











**Contact and Next Briefing Information** 

### **Next Briefing**

When: Noon, Sunday, Sept 16

#### **Briefing Webpage:**

http://www.weather.gov/marfc/self\_briefing







**Disclaimer:** The information contained within this briefing is time-sensitive, do not use after 7am, Sunday, Sept 16





