

## Floods Caused by Tropical Systems: Potomac River at Point of Rocks

Latitude: 39.274  
Flood Stage: 16 ft

Period of Record: 1889-Present  
Last Flood: 2/5/2016

Longitude: -77.543  
Number of Floods: 116

Date of Crest	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Remarks
10/16/1942	40.43	418,000	The remnants of the eighth tropical storm of the year produced torrential rains and caused the worst river flooding in the history of Virginia.
6/23/1972	37.43	347,000	Hurricane Agnes made landfall again over southeastern New York on June 22 and moved westward into Pennsylvania. Rainfall totals from June 20-25 range from 2-3 inches in the Upper Potomac to 18 inches near Shamokin, Pennsylvania.
11/7/1985	36.28	309,000	Hurricane Juan produced more than 1 inch of rain in VA with more than 7 inches reported in higher elevations. A coastal low pressure system produced an additional 1-7 inches of rain and caused widespread major flooding in Virginia and Maryland.
9/8/1996	36.26	309,000	Hurricane Fran produced up to 16 inches of rain in the western part of Virginia and up to 7 inches in the Juniata Basin in Pennsylvania. Fran was the worst flood even to hit Maryland since Hurricane Hazel and the January 1996 Flood.
8/20/1955	29.08	214,000	Hurricane Diane made landfall 5 days after Hurricane Connie. Hurricane Diane produced several inches of rain with locally heavier amounts of 10 to 20 inches.
10/1/1896	27.20	204,000	A hurricane knocked out communication in Richmond. Several buildings were unroofed in Petersburg. In Buena Vista, the fire department rescued people from their homes. The Potomac, Chesapeake and Ohio Canals merged into one giant canal.
9/26/1975	24.35	126,000	The remnants of Hurricane Eloise combined with a cold front and produced very heavy rainfall in the Mid-Atlantic. Washington, D.C. reported 9.08" of rainfall. Total damage for Virginia was estimated to be \$17.2 million.

Drainage Area: 9651 sq mi  
Gage Datum: 200.63 ft MSL

Tropical information before 1940 is limited.  
Potomac Basin

County of Gage: Frederick  
County of Forecast Point: Frederick

Date of Crest	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Remarks
9/21/2003	23.12	150,000	Hurricane Isabel combined with another system and produced more than 3 inches of rain in VA with locally heavier amounts of 10 inches. Another low pressure system moved through the region and produced a few additional inches of rain.
9/20/1945	21.98	139,000	The 1945 Southeast Florida Hurricane brought gusty winds and heavy rains to the Mid-Atlantic region.
10/17/1954	21.02	130,000	Hurricane Hazel dumped 6- 10 inches of rain in the western portion of Virginia.
10/31/2012	18.19	106,000	Hurricane Sandy moved across NJ through PA producing 3 to 7 inches of rain with locally higher amounts in areas that saw flooding. The hurricane rapidly lost its tropical characteristics as it moved northwest.
9/30/2004	17.25	98,100	Hurricane Jeanne stalled a cold front and supplied the front with much-needed moisture. As a result, 1-day rainfall totals ranged from 1 - 6 inches throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.
9/7/1979	16.19	87,800	Hurricane David dumped 3-7 inches of rainfall across Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.
9/1/1911	16.10	106,000	The first tropical cyclone of the 1911 season moved eastward across North Carolina and Virginia.

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