

What type of products/headlines does the National Weather Service issue related to flooding?

Ingrid Amberger

Meteorologist

National Weather Service

MINOR FLOODING - minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat or inconvenience.

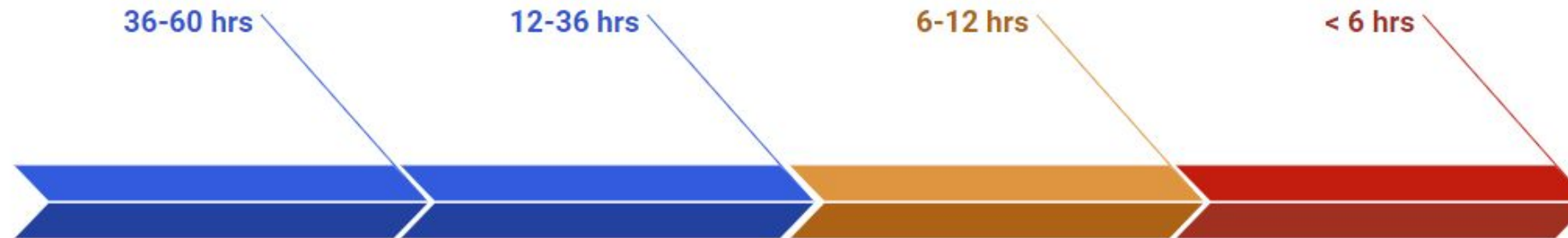
MODERATE FLOODING - some inundation of structures and roads near streams/rivers; some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher ground elevations necessary.

MAJOR FLOODING - extensive inundation of structures and roads; significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.

Flooding: Outlook - Watch - Warning



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WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE



Hazardous Weather Outlook

Issued 36-60 hours
ahead of any type of
flooding

Confidence level: > 30%

The potential flooding
threat will also be included
in the NYS Daily Briefing

Flood Watch

Issued within 36 hours
of any type of flooding

Confidence level: > 50%

Flood Warnings

Areal and river flood
warnings issued within
12 hours of expected
flooding

More than 6 hours
before the event, flash
flooding should still be
messed with a
watch.

Confidence level:
>80% for warnings
>50% for watch

Flash Flood Warnings

Issued within 6 hours
of event for rapid onset
flooding causing an
immediate threat to life
and/or property.

Confidence level: >80%



NWSAlbany



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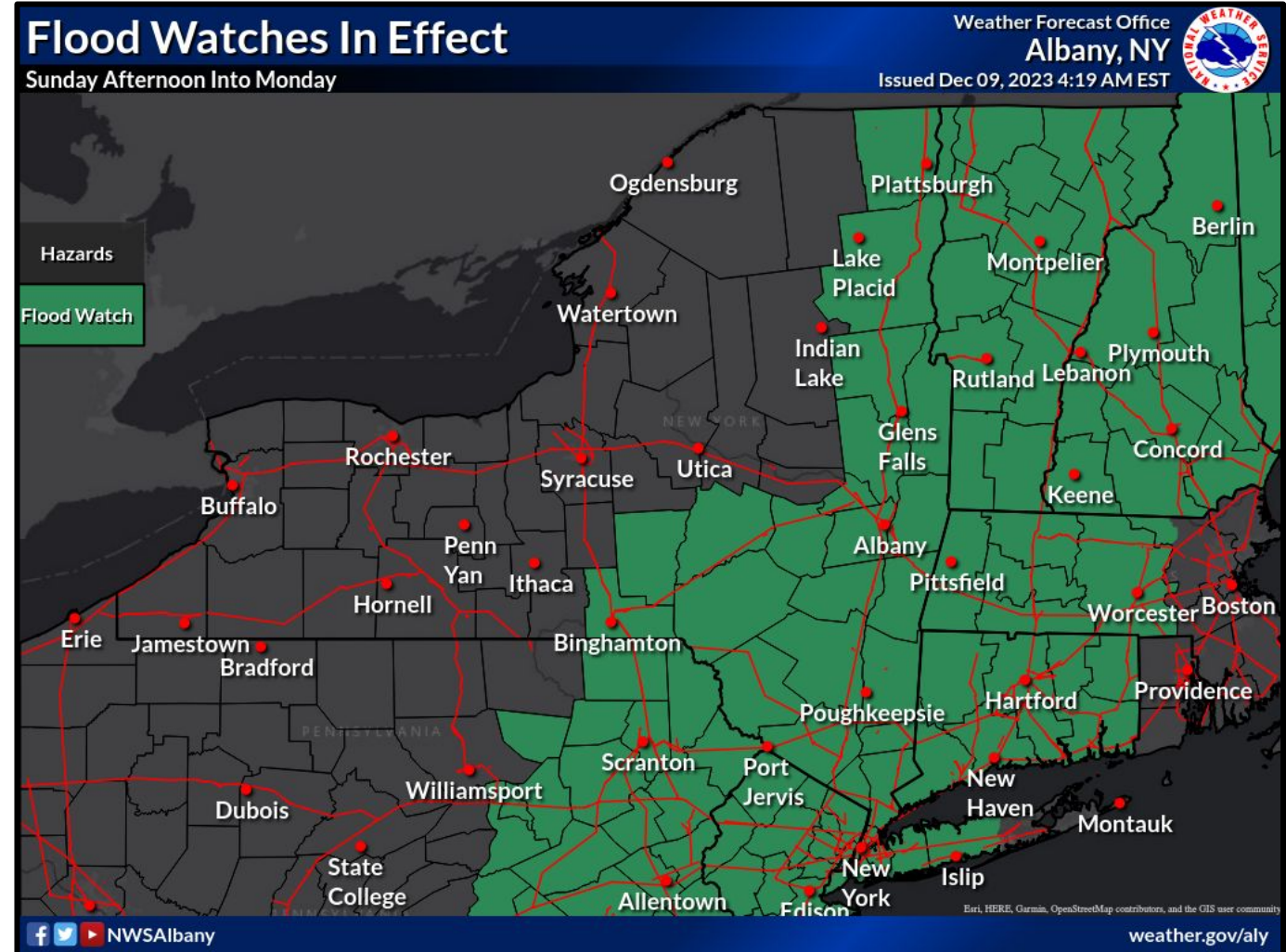
www.weather.gov/aly

Flood Watch:

Issued to indicate that there is a potential of flooding in or close to the watch area. Those in the affected area are urged to be ready to act if a flood warning is issued or flooding is observed.

BE PREPARED

Stay tuned to trusted news sources
and be ready to seek higher ground.



River Flood Warning

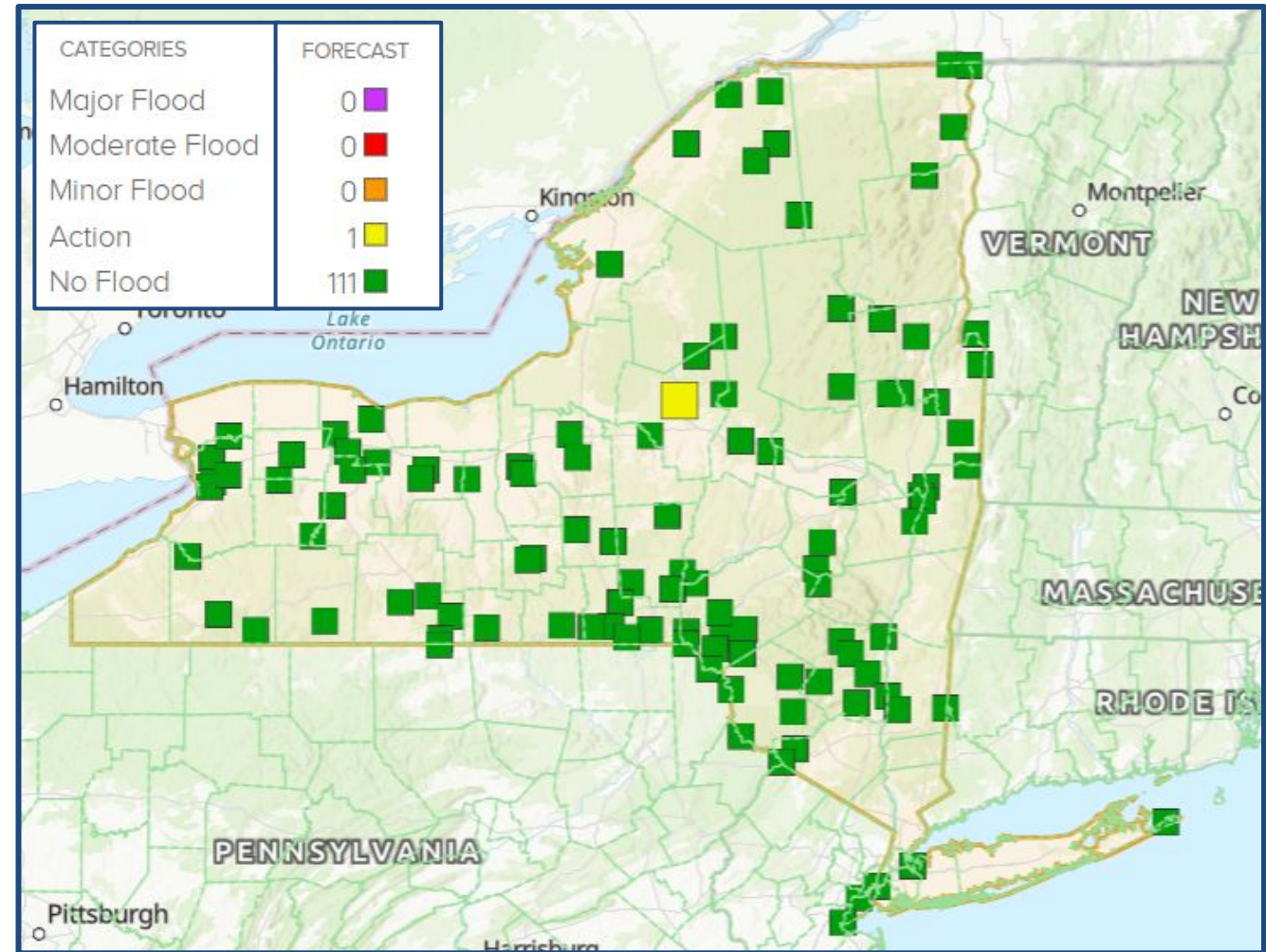


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River Flood Warning:

Issued when a river, creek or stream is forecast to go above its designated flood stage at the forecast point and usually includes information on the impacts of expected flooding at locations upstream and/or downstream from forecast point.

TAKE ACTION!



Forecast Point: A location along a river or stream for which hydrologic forecast and warning services are provided. The observed/forecast stage or discharge for a given forecast point can be assumed to represent conditions in a given reach. **Reach:** A section of river or stream between an upstream and downstream location, for which the stage or flow measured at a point (forecast point) somewhere along the section is representative of conditions in that section of river or stream.

Flood Stages - River Flood Warning



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ACTION - the stage which, when reached by a rising stream, represents the level where the NWS or a partner/user needs to take some type of mitigation action in preparation for possible significant hydrologic activity. The type of action taken varies for each gage location. Gage data should be closely monitored by any affected people if the stage is above action stage.

NOTE: At "flood only" forecast points, forecasts begin being issued for levels over action stage.

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MODERATE - some inundation of structures and roads near streams/rivers; some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher ground elevations necessary.

MAJOR - extensive inundation of structures and roads; significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.

RECORD - is when a flood at a given location matches or goes beyond the highest water level or discharge ever recorded during the period of record keeping.

Flood Advisory:

High water or flooding that creates a significant inconvenience but could become a threat if precautions aren't taken.

BE AWARE



Street/Poor Drainage Flooding

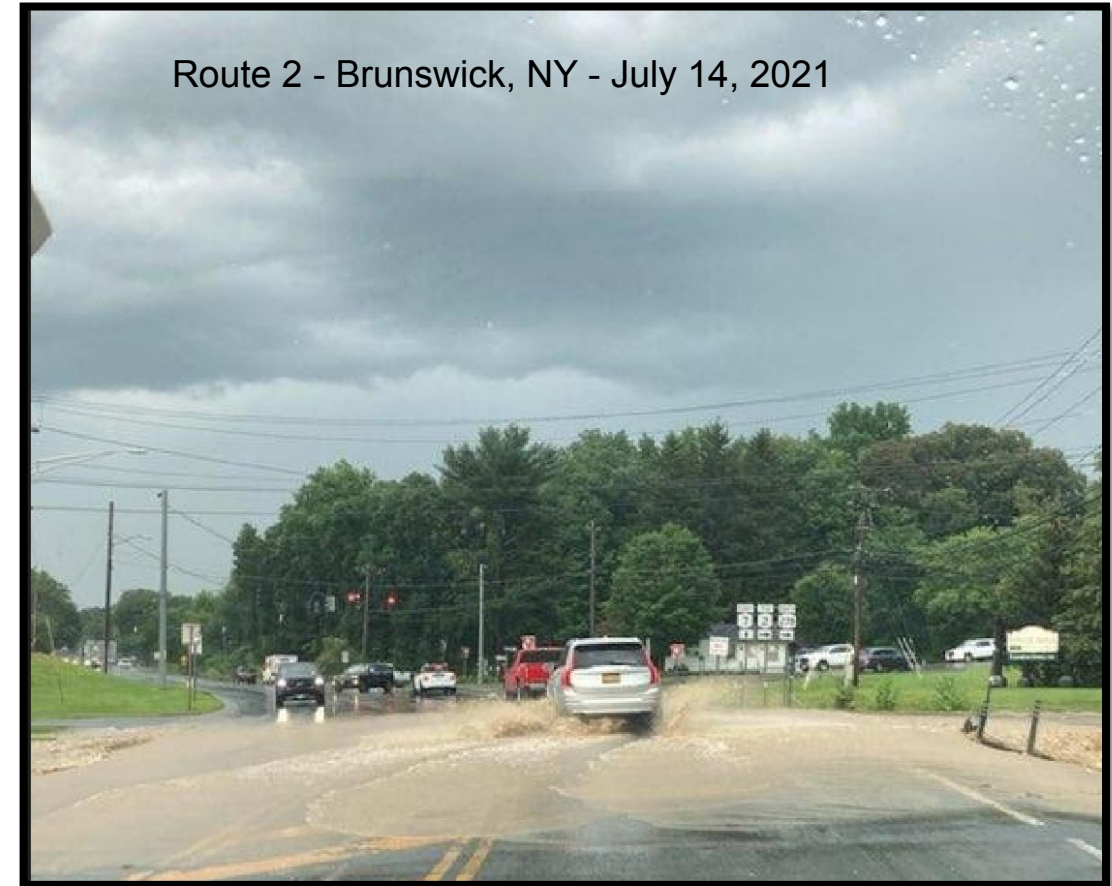
Usually dissipates shortly after heavy rain ends



Flood Warning:

Issued for any high flow, overflow, or inundation by water that is a threat to life or property. This includes flooding caused by heavy rainfall and ice jams.

TAKE ACTION!



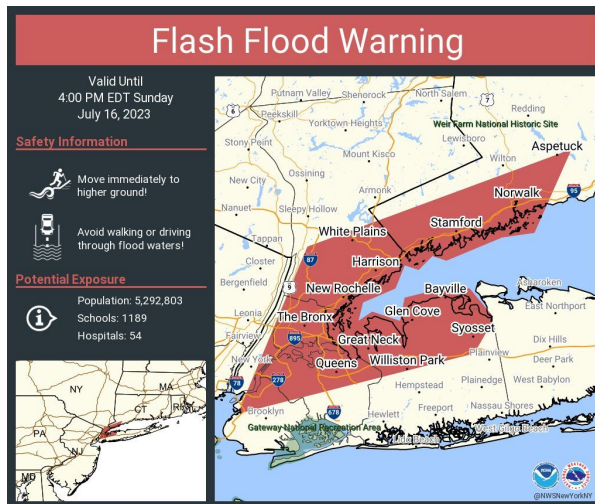
Flash Flood Warning



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Flash Flood Warning:

A rapid and extreme flow of high water into a normally dry area, or a rapid water level rise in a stream or creek. Requires immediate action to protect life and property!



TAKE ACTION!



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Flash Flood Emergency



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Flash Flood Emergency: Will be coordinated with emergency managers before issuing unless communications are down.

**Flash Flood
EMERGENCY**



ISSUED FOR...
Exceedingly rare situations when a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage from a flash flood is happening or will happen soon.

 This is a life-threatening situation! Do not attempt to travel unless you are fleeing an area subject to flooding or under an evacuation order.

Flash Flood Emergency


Valid Until
11:30 PM EDT Wednesday
September 1, 2021


Safety Information


-  Move immediately to higher ground!
-  Avoid walking or driving through flood waters!

Potential Exposure

- Population: 9,136,562
- Schools: 1723
- Hospitals: 71



 This is a life threatening situation. Seek higher ground now!



@NWSNewYorkNY

Flash Flood Emergency will be coordinated with emergency managers before issuing unless communications are down.

Examples of situations which warrant the inclusion of flash flood emergency language in flash flood warnings may include but are not limited to:

- Emergency manager(s) of the affected county(s) or the state emergency management office declare a state of emergency and have confirmed that rapidly rising flood waters are placing or will place people in life-threatening situations.
- The state of emergency for the affected areas may have been previously relayed by the emergency manager(s) or the state emergency management office through the WFO in a Non-Weather Emergency Message.
- Water has rapidly risen or will rapidly rise to levels where people are placed in life – threatening situations. For example, people in homes would experience waters that are several feet above floor level such that rescue is necessary and/or their entire home is threatened.
- Multiple swift water rescue teams have been or are being deployed in response to flash flooding of an exceptional magnitude.
- Stream gauges, where available, indicate flood waters have risen rapidly to at least major levels or if gauges are not available, flood waters have risen to levels rarely if ever seen.
- Total failure of a major high hazard dam that would have a catastrophic impact on downstream communities.

Wireless Emergency Alerts - Flooding



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Warning Type	Tag Selection Notes	Wireless Emergency Alert?
Flash Flood with no tag		No
Flash Flood with Considerable tag	Use rarely, when there are indications flash flooding capable of unusual severity or impact is imminent or ongoing and urgent action is needed to protect lives and property.	Yes
Flash Flood with Catastrophic tag	<p>This must be coordinated with emergency management officials before issuing unless communications to those officials are down.</p> <p>Exceedingly rare, violent flash floods which threaten lives and cause disastrous damage when floodwaters are placing or will place people in life-threatening situations by rapidly rising to levels rarely, if ever, seen.</p> <p>**Use of Flash Flood Emergency Should Be A Consensus Team Decision**</p>	Yes (Emergency Language)