DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DCZ001 District Of Columbia
06 1000EST 1300EST
The remnants of Hurricane Fran produced intense rain bands accompanied by wind gusts in excess of 40 mph. These gusts, combined with the saturated soil, knocked down several trees and large limbs across upper Northwest Washington.

District Of Columbia Downtown
06 1200EST 1800EST
Feeder bands of torrential tropical rains associated with the remnants of Hurricane Fran produced localized flash flooding and widespread power outages in the metropolitan area. The heaviest rains fell from the city west, with totals ranging from 1.5 to 3.5 inches. Minor flash flooding occurred downtown, and Beach Drive was closed for the afternoon as Rock Creek overflowed its banks.

DCZ001 District Of Columbia Downtown
06 1200EST 1830EST
A storm surge of 5.1 feet associated with strong southeasterly flow ahead of the remnants of Hurricane Fran created moderate tidal flooding along Washington Harbor. Floodgates were raised farther north near the Kennedy Center, preventing damage to businesses in a portion of Foggy Bottom. Nonetheless, some areas in lower Georgetown and along the marina reported flooding.

MARYLAND, Central

Anne Arundel County
Along The Chesapeake
06 1000EST 1700EST
0 0 1.4M Storm Surge

Baltimore County
Along The Chesapeake
06 1000EST 1700EST
0 0 250K Storm Surge

Calvert County
Along The Chesapeake
06 1000EST 1700EST
0 0 750K Storm Surge

Charles County
Along The Potomac
06 1000EST 1700EST
0 0 1.6M 5K Storm Surge

St. Mary's County
Along The Chesapeake
06 1000EST 1700EST
0 0 100K Storm Surge

The track of Tropical Storm Fran from south-central through western Virginia allowed gusty southeast winds at and just above the surface to channel water up the Chesapeake Bay and its main tributaries. This became a small-scale storm surge, containing 6 foot waves and tides which ran in some places nearly 6 feet above normal.

Damage was fairly heavy along the immediate shore of the Chesapeake Bay and tidal Potomac River in Charles, St Mary's, Calvert, and Anne Arundel Counties. In Charles Co, property damage was estimated at $1.6 million with Cobb Island suffering substantial losses. Approximately 75 homes were flooded; between 100 and 200 piers and bulkheads were damaged or destroyed. Affected Charles Co residents believed this to be a flood of memory rivaling that of Hurricane Hazel in 1954. Substantial damage was also noted at newly developed land along the shore in northern Calvert and southern Anne Arundel Counties (North Beach/Chesapeake Beach). In all, $1.4 million in damage was incurred in Anne Arundel Co, including 83 homes, 7 commercial properties, and a total of 100 bulkheads and piers. Twenty homes were flooded along the northern Calvert Co shoreline. Farther north, in southeastern Baltimore Co, 100 people were evacuated in the Bowley's Quarter area.
MARYLAND, Central

Damage was notable but substantially less in St Mary's Co where coastal residential and business development lags.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Path Length (Miles)</th>
<th>Path Width (Yards)</th>
<th>Number of Persons Killed</th>
<th>Number of Persons Injured</th>
<th>Estimated Damage Property</th>
<th>Estimated Damage Crops</th>
<th>Character of Storm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany County</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>1000EST</td>
<td>1700EST</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>110K</td>
<td>35K</td>
<td>High Wind</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The remnants of Hurricane Fran continued to spawn high winds, ranging from 25 to 35 mph with gusts to 50 mph, across much of Maryland west of the Chesapeake Bay. The combination of strong winds and saturated soil knocked down numerous trees across the area, most concentrated at the highest elevations. Power was knocked out to thousands of customers in the state, including many in the Baltimore/Washington metropolitan area.

Allegany County Countywide 06 1100EST 2100EST 0 0 250K 25K Flash Flood

Frederick County Countywide 06 1200EST 1900EST 0 0 75K 10K Flash Flood

Montgomery County Countywide 06 1200EST 1900EST 0 0 25K 5K Flash Flood

Washington County Countywide 06 1200EST 1900EST 0 0 150K 35K Flash Flood

Carroll County Countywide 06 1300EST 1900EST 0 0 25K Flash Flood

Howard County Countywide 06 1300EST 1900EST 0 0 25K Flash Flood

Prince George'S County N Portion 06 1300EST 1800EST 0 0 20K Flash Flood

A weakening tropical storm Fran produced flash flooding across the western half of Maryland during the afternoon of the 6th. The system was downgraded to a depression prior to moving across the far western border during the early evening of the 6th. Flash flooding was most acute in Frederick, Washington, and Allegany Counties, where 3 to 5 inches of rain fell in general. A cooperative observer in Frostburg (Allegany Co) recorded 6.33 inches.

No deaths or injuries were attributed to Fran's remnants in Maryland.

Western Allegany Co (MDZ002) was hit the hardest. The nearly $1 million in property damage included 14 destroyed homes, 19 with major damage, and 500 with minor to moderate damage. The damage was concentrated along the Potomac and the Georges Creek in the towns of Lonaconing and Westernport.

As the near record to record flows moved downstream towards higher population areas of Frederick (MDZ004) and Montgomery (MDZ009) Counties, damages continued to pile up. The town of Point of Rocks, which is used to some flooding, was inundated for the second time in less than a year. Evacuations were required and numerous buildings were flooded. Main Street was closed, as was the commuter rail station. Twenty-six private dwellings were damaged; at least $150,000 in property damage was incurred.

Substantial agricultural damage was limited to Montgomery Co (MDZ009), where 450 acres of corn and soybean crops were destroyed. Damage upstream was less significant since most fields are well removed from the immediate flood plain along the Potomac.

Throughout the basin and its tributaries, there were numerous road closures, rescues, and evacuations. Many bridges were washed out, debris covered pasture and farmland, and filled small creeks and streams high enough to redirect their natural flow. River
MARYLAND, Central

sand and mud also covered some streets, in some cases (such as Point-of-Rocks) higher than one level of residents and businesses. Needless to say, the river flooding produced several electric and telephone outages.

Please refer to the narrative on flash flooding for further information and damage estimate breakdowns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Path Character of Storm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patuxent River Nas</td>
<td>Thunderstorm Wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A 60 mph gust was reported at Patuxent River NAS. Nearby, several trees were knocked down, and a few windows were blown out, at area residences.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’S County</td>
<td>Thunderstorm Wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several trees and/or large limbs were knocked down.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford County</td>
<td>Lightning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearly 10,000 Baltimore Gas and Electric customers were without power during and after a strong thunderstorm moved through. The majority of outages were in Harford Co.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore County</td>
<td>Flash Flood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downpours associated with slow-moving thunderstorms dumped an estimated 6 inches of rain in less than 4 hours, causing substantial flash flooding along interstate 95 in southeastern Baltimore and Harford Counties. In Joppatowne, numerous vehicles were reported under water, with several streets closed. A large section of Joppa Farm road collapsed. Numerous roads were flooded across the line in Baltimore Co as well. Federal highway 40 (Pulaski Highway) was closed for 2 hours.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George’S County</td>
<td>Flash Flood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A nearly stationary line of showers and thunderstorms dumped between 1.5 and 2.5 inches of rain over the northern and eastern suburbs of Washington, and the southern suburbs of Baltimore, during the morning rush. Localized flash flooding was common, bringing several creeks out of their banks and closing numerous roads. In southern Montgomery Co, Beach Drive was closed between Bethesda and Kensington, as was a portion of Rockville Pike. The Cabin John Creek overflowed its banks along Tuckerman Lane in Bethesda. In Laurel (Prince Georges Co), several roads were flooded.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>Flash Flood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A brief gustnado touched down in northern Carroll Co, causing substantial damage to a barn, garage, and outbuilding, and blew out windows at an adjacent farm house. Several trees and limbs were also down, and power was knocked out to local residents. A neighbor witnessed the tornado, and ducked for cover as it approached. His property had debris strewn about - twisted “like pasta”. A 20-foot piece of sheet metal was found on his property. Another neighbor reported smaller pieces of sheet metal on her property.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll County</td>
<td>Tornado (F0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An isolated thunderstorm dumped between 4 and 5 inches on central Madison Co, bringing creeks out of their banks and closing a few roads.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRGINIA, North</td>
<td>Flash Flood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/09/1935 EST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An isolated thunderstorm dumped between 4 and 5 inches on central Madison Co, bringing creeks out of their banks and closing a few roads.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VIRGINIA, North

Stafford County  
6 SE Widewater to 4 SE Widewater  
04 1520EST 1524EST  
0 0 Waterspout  
An isolated low-topped thunderstorm produced a waterspout along the tidal Potomac River between Stafford and King George Counties, and west of Charles Co in Maryland. The waterspout was seen by two persons; one in the Widewater community in Stafford Co, and another at a marina in northwest King George Co. No damage was reported.

Greene County  
Countywide  
04 1800EST 2000EST  
0 0 10K Flash Flood  
Fairfax County  
Tysons Corner to McLean  
04 1830EST 2000EST  
0 0 Flash Flood  
Madison County  
Countywide  
04 1830EST 2000EST  
0 0 30K Flash Flood  
Rappahannock County  
Countywide  
04 1830EST 2000EST  
0 0 20K Flash Flood  
Fauquier County  
N Portion  
04 1900EST 2030EST  
0 0 30K Flash Flood  
A line of stationary thunderstorms, containing copious amounts of rainfall, caused several streams and creeks to come out of their banks, closing several roads and a few highways during the late evening of the 4th. A daily rain total of over 7 inches was reported by a spotter in the town of Madison. An estimated 5 inches fell in portions of Rappahannock and northern Fauquier Counties during the evening, causing the majority of problems. Fauquier County was particularly hard hit; several major roads were closed, including state route 28 between Blue Ridge Christian Home road and federal highway 17.

Further east, in Fairfax Co, the Difficult Run overflowed its banks along state route 7; minor flash flooding was reported a few miles to the east in McLean.

Nelson County  
Countywide  
06 0300EST 1200EST  
0 0 1M 50K Flash Flood  
Albemarle County  
Countywide  
06 0400EST 1300EST  
0 0 120K 900K Flash Flood  
Augusta County  
Countywide  
06 0400EST 1300EST  
M18VE, M21VE  
2 0 2M 500K Flash Flood  
Highland County  
Countywide  
06 0500EST 1400EST  
1 0 1M 50K Flash Flood  
*** Narrative for flash floods associated with "Fran" follow the Loudoun Co entry, start time 1100EST *** F53OU

VAZ021-025-027>031-036>042-050>054  
06 0500EST 1300EST  
0 0 265K 7.5M High Wind  
Gusty winds in excess of 40 mph, combined with soft soil from previous rainfall, caused scattered tree damage across much of the Virginia Piedmont and a small area of the coastal plain. At elevations above 2000 feet, sustained tropical-storm force winds with gusts as high as 79 mph pummelled the landscape, especially the east-facing slopes of Shenandoah National Forest and the George Washington National Forest. Thousands of mainly light wood trees (pines and maples) were snapped or uprooted. Along Skyline Drive alone, over 500 trees had to be cleared from the roadway before it could be reopened. Numerous trails had trees down; some trails remained closed more than one month after the event.

In the central Shenandoah Valley, an area closest to the storm track, widespread scattered tree damage was noted. In Albemarle Co, tens of trees were on roads, requiring a substantial clean-up effort from Virginia Department of Transportation crews. Two homes were deemed temporarily uninhabitable when trees fell on them sometime between 0500 and 0900EST. Immediately east of the Shenandoah Valley, in Culpeper Co, high winds blew a tree through a house; a metal roof at the Dominion Winery was sheared off, and several trees were reported blocking roads and/or knocked into power lines.
Further east, the damage was more scattered, but still requiring some tree removal. In Fairfax Co, a motorist died when his car slammed into a fallen tree. Tree damage was noted in Prince William, Stafford, and Spotsylvania Counties. In Dale City (Prince William Co), a residence had two large oak trees snapped in half and sustained gutter damage. Several trees were blown onto homes in Spotsylvania Co, and others were uprooted in Stafford Co. Other trees were knocked down in Arlington Co.

Virginia Power estimated 38,300 customers without power in northern Virginia mainly due to the high winds; however, there were likely more than 50,000 customers without power after accounting for rural electric cooperatives.

Virginia, North

Greene County
Countywide 06 0600EST 1400EST 0 0 50K 30K Flash Flood

Orange County
Countywide 06 0600EST 1400EST 0 0 230K 350K Flash Flood

Rockingham County
Countywide 06 0600EST 1400EST 0 0 4M 2.5M Flash Flood

Culpeper County
Countywide 06 0700EST 1500EST 0 0 240K 200K Flash Flood

Madison County
Countywide 06 0700EST 1500EST 0 0 400K 700K Flash Flood

Page County
Countywide 06 0700EST 1500EST 0 0 500K 1.4M Flash Flood

VAZ025<027-029>031-038>042-050>051-053>056

September 1996


06 0730EST 10 0130EST

The rapid runoff produced by the heavy rains from Fran caused substantial, damaging, and in some cases record river flooding across much of the northern Virginia watershed from late on the 6th until early on the 10th.

Flash flooding on the 6th rapidly became river flooding late on the 6th along the headwaters of the Potomac, Shenandoah, and Rappahannock River basins, and continued throughout the basins over the weekend and into early the following week. Crests at gaging points in these basins were similar to those in January 1996 across the Lower Main Stem of the Potomac. Levels were 1 to 5 feet higher across the Upper Main Stem Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers. The Shenandoah Basin had levels similar to the October 1942 flood with three points reaching record levels (Lynnwood, Cootes Store, and Strasburg).

There were numerous road closures, rescues, evacuations, washed out and damaged bridges and culverts; the flood also produced major agricultural damage. Debris covered pasture and farmland, and filled small creeks and streams to levels higher than surrounding roads, which redirected the natural stream flow. River sand and mud covered streets and multiple levels of homes and businesses. Debris slides (landslides) were also noted in portions of the Upper Potomac river Basin. There were several electric and phone outages. Three deaths occurred in the northern half of Virginia - due to flash flooding (not river flooding).

Refer to the narrative on Flash Flooding for a more detailed breakdown of damage estimates.

Fauquier County
Countywide 06 0800EST 1600EST 0 0 20K 20K Flash Flood

Rappahannock County
Countywide 06 0800EST 1600EST 0 0 300K 20K Flash Flood

Shenandoah County
Countywide 06 0800EST 1600EST 0 0 1M 1.2M Flash Flood

Warren County
Countywide 06 0800EST 1600EST 0 0 6M 500K Flash Flood
Stafford County
Along Potomac River 06 0900EST 1700EST

The track of Tropical Storm Fran from south-central through western Virginia allowed gusty southeast winds at and just above the surface to channel water up the Chesapeake Bay and its main tributaries. This became a small-scale storm surge, containing 6 foot waves and tides which ran in some places nearly 6 feet above normal. In Alexandria (Fairfax/Arlington Co), water rose to 5 feet deep in the Old Town district, flooding numerous shops, restaurants, and pubs. Fortunately, many shop owners had moved valuable merchandise to higher locations prior to the surge, minimizing property damage.

Farther south, the pounding waves and above normal tides caused damage to piers, marinas, and some residences in Prince William, Stafford, and King George Counties. Along the tidal Potomac River, a storm surge of at least 6 feet piled up water in the Occoquan Bay, eventually flooding numerous homes in Occoquan and Woodbridge. In Stafford Co, the surge caused substantial boat and pier damage near Aquia Creek, and a picnic area was flooded at Quantico. Major damage was also sustained in King George Co north of Colonial Beach.

Clarke County
Countywide 06 1000EST 1800EST

Prince William County
Nw Portion 06 1000EST 1800EST

The hardest hit areas were in the Shenandoah Valley, where maximum transport of tropical moisture was lifted over some of the highest terrain in the state to produce incredible rain totals. In some areas of the Shenandoah Valley, the flood's impact exceeded that of January 1996 and November 1985. Massive public and private property damage was sustained in Warren, Page, Shenandoah, Rockingham, and Augusta Counties. In general, storm total rainfall in these areas ranged from 5 to 8 inches at lower elevations, with 9 to 12 inches along the highest peaks of the Shenandoah National Park. Notable totals at high elevations included 15.61 inches and 14.30 inches at Big Meadows and Toms Branch in Shenandoah National Park.

The storm's heaviest rains fell in a six-hour period at any one location, but rainfall rates ranged from between 1 and 2 inches per hour to as high as 4 inches per hour along the higher terrain.

Three persons perished in northwest Virginia as a result of the flooding. In Highland Co, a woman drowned when she became trapped in an all-terrain vehicle while trying to cross a flooded creek. Two young males were swept away in Augusta Co north of Staunton when trying to cross a washed-out bridge along the Middle River. More than 100 persons were rescued from Fran's
VIRGINIA, North

floodwaters during the event.

Numerous school districts closed prior to Fran's arrival. Such decisions may have saved lives, as local school bus routes through flood-prone areas were either flooded or washed out during the day. However, not all school systems closed, and some problems did occur. In western Loudoun Co, a full school bus became stranded, requiring rescue operations. No injuries were reported.

Notable flood-related incidents included: rooftop rescues in the Shenandoah Valley, including a mother and child in Augusta Co, six persons in Page Co, and 5 more from a third-floor apartment in Rockingham Co; portions of every road were closed in Page and Madison Counties; 40 homes were destroyed and 165 others sustained major damage in Shenandoah Co; fourteen homes and two barns were damaged in Loudoun Co, and 50 basements flooded in Rappahannock Co.

Damage was extensive state-wide. Estimates placed property dollar damage at $300 million. A bumper crop of late summer and early autumn fruits and vegetables was thinned by the storm; farmers in counties around the Shenandoah Valley suffered major losses. In all, $72 million in agricultural damage was reported across the state; $50 million in crops alone - mainly across the western half of the state. Across northern Virginia, property damage, including that to rural electric cooperatives, totaled nearly $96 million; agricultural damage totalled $38.4 million. These values were combined flash flood and river flood damage.

### Greene County

- **Stanardsville**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1330EST, 1500EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 20K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

### Madison County

- **Countywide**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1400EST, 1500EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 20K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

Slow-moving thunderstorms containing tropical moisture dumped additional heavy rain onto saturated ground. Widespread flooding was observed in Madison and Greene Counties. In Greene County, evacuations were ordered northwest of Stanardsville, near the intersection of local route 667 and Kenderhook Road. Numerous roads were closed in Madison Co, and a mud slide was reported.

### Rockingham County

- **N Portion**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1500EST, 1600EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 20K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

### Shenandoah County

- **Countywide**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1500EST, 1600EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 20K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

Slow-moving thunderstorms in the northern Shenandoah Valley dumped heavy rain on previously saturated ground, closing numerous roads from Harrisonburg north through Shenandoah Co.

### Augusta County

- **Churchville**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1530EST, 1600EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 0
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

High standing water was reported at the intersection of federal highway 250 and state route 42.

### Stafford County

- **Boswell'S Corner**
  - Date: 08
  - Time: 1800EST, 1900EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 40K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

Another slow-moving thunderstorm caused substantial local flooding in Stafford Co. Federal highway 1 was flooded at Boswell's Corner. Automobiles were reported floating, and evacuations were required in the Potomac Hills section of the county.

### Arlington County

- **Countywide**
  - Date: 11
  - Time: 0800EST, 0930EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 0
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Flash Flood

A nearly stationary line of showers and thunderstorms dumped between 1.5 and 2.5 inches of rain on the immediate southern suburbs of Washington, causing localized flash flooding during the tail end of the morning commute. The George Washington Parkway was closed just north of Alexandria, and Edsall Road was reported under water at the junction of Interstate 395.

### Madison County

- **Rochelle**
  - Date: 28
  - Time: 1830EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 3K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Thunderstorm Wind

Several trees were knocked down along routes 231 and 684.

### Fauquier County

- **Midland**
  - Date: 28
  - Time: 1838EST
  - Number of Persons: 0
  - Injured: 0
  - Property Damage: 2K
  - Crops Damage: 0
  - Character: Thunderstorm Wind

A few trees were knocked down on Metz Road.
WEST VIRGINIA, East

WVZ048>055 Grant - Mineral - Hampshire - Morgan - Berkeley - Jefferson - Pendleton - Hardy
06 0700EST 1200EST
0
0
250K
500.1K
High Wind

The track of the remnants of Hurricane Fran brought high winds, gusting between 60 and 70 mph at elevations above 1500 feet, into eastern West Virginia during the morning and early afternoon of the 6th. Numerous trees were knocked down, mainly at higher elevations - although the damage was not as pronounced as that several ridges over in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. In Harper's Ferry (WVZ053), channeling winds and a northeastern exposure caused numerous trees to fall. The gusty winds also tore a portion of roof from one home.

Pendleton County
Countywide 06 0700EST 1600EST
1
0
1M
75K
Flash Flood
M20VE

Grant County
Countywide 06 0900EST 1800EST
1
0
250K
25K
Flash Flood
M?VE

Hardy County
Countywide 06 0900EST 1800EST
0
0
750K
120K
Flash Flood

Hampshire County
Countywide 06 1000EST 2000EST
0
0
250K
150K
Flash Flood

*** Narrative follows Morgan Co Flash Flood entry, 1100EST start time***

WVZ048>050-054>055 Grant - Mineral - Hampshire - Pendleton - Hardy
06 1015EST 08 0730EST
0
0
16.5M
950K
River Flooding

Incredible rainfall associated with the remnants of Hurricane Fran caused considerable and in some cases record flooding along rivers and tributaries in the Potomac basin. A thin band of 11 to 14 inches of rain falling along higher ridges ran off into the Upper South Fork of the South Branch Potomac River and the Lost River sub-basin. These rain amounts led to record river flooding along the South Fork, Lost River, and Trout Run sub-basins.

River flooding began simultaneously with the flash flooding in the Potomac Highlands. The flooding continued for nearly 48 hours before levels receded below flood stage. Crests were 1 to 5 feet above those of the January 1996 flood across the South Branch; crests were within 1 to 3 feet of January levels across the North Branch.

Damage was excessive, especially along the South Branch Potomac. A state-owned railroad system sustained numerous washouts and peripheral damage; the railroad, which tracks through Hardy, Hampshire, and Grant Cos (WVZ048-050-055) suffered $2.5 million in damage.

In Hardy Co alone, 90 percent of the county roads were closed from washouts. Over 50 percent of the private culverts were completely washed out. Between 75 and 100 wells were damaged; nearly 1/4 of those remained unusable months later due to bacteria contamination. Agriculture and poultry farms, especially those in flood plains, were struck hard. Eight to ten thousand acres were inundated with an estimated $200 thousand in damage to unharvested corn crops. Another $200 thousand was estimated from lost or destroyed chickens. The $5 million in reported property damage included $3.5 million to 227 residences and $1.5 million to public buildings.

Well after the flood, debris covered pasture and farmland, and filled creeks and streams enough to redirect normal flow. River sand and mud also covered streets and in some cases was above the ground floor of residences and businesses. Landslides were also noted in portions of the Upper Potomac basin. Electric and phone outages lasted several days, especially in isolated locations.

Please refer to the narrative on flash floods for a further breakdown of damages.

Berkeley County
Countywide 06 1100EST 1900EST
0
0
150K
50K
Flash Flood

Jefferson County
Countywide 06 1100EST 1900EST
0
0
100K
50K
Flash Flood

Mineral County
Countywide 06 1100EST 1900EST
0
0
500K
50K
Flash Flood
The remnants of Hurricane Fran moved through eastern West Virginia during the late afternoon of the 6th, preceded by torrential rains which caused widespread and in some cases catastrophic flooding. Property and crop damage was most substantial in the Potomac Highlands where flooding was severe. Evacuations were required once again in portions of Hardy, Hampshire, and Pendleton Counties. Two persons died directly from the floods. In Grant Co, a man drove a tractor into flood waters and was swept away to his death. A young man drove an automobile into flood waters in Pendleton Co, and was swept away as well.

Property and crop damage was less severe in the Panhandle - a combination of lesser rain totals and fewer mountainous areas. Storm total rainfall ranged from 3 to 5 inches in the panhandle; 5 to 8 inches in the Potomac Highlands. However, a thin band of 11 to 14 inches fell at the highest elevations.

In the panhandle, approximately 600 acres of corn were lost to the flood. Some livestock were also lost. Though corn crop losses were extensive for the event, the effect of the loss only thinned out a bumper crop for the season.

See the River Flood section for further information.