NOAA, National Weather Service
Middle Atlantic
River Forecast Center
Briefing

5:00 pm June 26, 2015
Key Messages

• No change to river forecasts this afternoon since rainfall forecast has not changed significantly.
• **Risk of minor to moderate river flooding** begins Saturday afternoon and continues through Sunday for portions of the Susquehanna River basin and the Potomac River basin.
• **Flash Flooding or Flooding of creeks and streams** possible in some areas beginning late Friday night and continuing through Saturday night.
• **Isolated Very Heavy Rainfall** of 3-4 inches possible in thunderstorms in some areas of the Lower Susquehanna and Potomac River basin, with at least 2 inches expected in most areas.
• **Moderate confidence** in this river forecast given the good agreement amongst weather models on the general location and amount of predicted rainfall. However, we do not know exactly where the very heavy rainfall will fall and therefore we do not know which rivers and streams will experience the worst flooding.
• **Next forecast update** will be at 10PM and 10AM.
Rainfall Timing: Rain will overspread the Mid-Atlantic region from southwest to northeast tonight. Heaviest rain is expected between 2AM Saturday and 5AM Sunday.
Rainfall Totals

- Widespread rainfall greater than 2 inches expected between now and late Sunday night.
- Isolated Very heavy rainfall of 3-4 inches possible in some areas. This rainfall is not shown because we do not know exactly where the very heavy rainfall will fall.
- Better chance for very heavy rain from thunderstorms is across Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, southern Pennsylvania, and southern New Jersey
- Heaviest rain is expected between 2AM Saturday and 5AM Sunday.
Streams and Creeks

- Flood Watches have been expanded to include south eastern Pennsylvania.
- Rapid-onset flash flood risk exists in the light green shaded areas.
- Small stream, urban, and poor drainage flooding risk exists for the dark green and light green shaded areas.
- Timing Most Areas: Risk is from 2AM Saturday until 2AM Sunday.
- Timing SE Pennsylvania: Risk is from Noon Saturday until 5AM Sunday.
River Flood Outlook

- Moderate River Flooding is possible across portions of the Juniata, Lower Susquehanna, and Potomac River basins.
- The risk of moderate or major flooding is limited primarily to smaller tributary rivers and streams.
- Significant flooding is not expected on the main stem Susquehanna river or Potomac river
Current river forecasts shown here indicate numerous smaller tributary rivers and streams rising to near flood stage.

River forecasts are expected to change. The possibility exists for moderate flooding on some smaller tributary rivers and streams.

Significant main stem river flooding is not expected.

Because rainfall has not fallen yet, these forecasts should be monitored frequently for updates if you live, work, or travel near a river or stream.

Next forecast updates will be at 10PM today.

For the latest river forecasts for your location go to our web page at: www.weather.gov/marfc
Prepare Now

Flood Safety

• If you live or work near a stream or creek, stay tuned for possible warnings
• If flooding occurs, get to higher ground immediately.
• Do not let children play near streams, storm drains or ditches during high water. It takes only six inches of fast flowing water to sweep you off your feet.
• Do not cross flooded roads. Turn around, don’t drown! Water only two feet deep can float away most automobiles
• Do not camp or park along streams when heavy rain is expected.
Need more info?

• Contact your local NWS Weather Forecast Office
  – Binghamton, NY  http://weather.gov/bgm
  – Blacksburg, VA  http://weather.gov/rnk
  – Mt Holly, NJ  http://weather.gov/phi
  – State College, PA  http://weather.gov/ctp
  – New York City, NY  http://weather.gov/okx
  – Sterling, VA  http://weather.gov/lwx
  – Wakefield, VA  http://weather.gov/akq

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Next MARFC Briefing

• The next MARFC briefing will be issued at 11AM Saturday.