

Major Winter Storm Tonight thru Sat

Briefing Number 5

Overview -

A major winter storm will bring moderate to heavy snowfall and strong winds to much of the area tonight through Saturday.

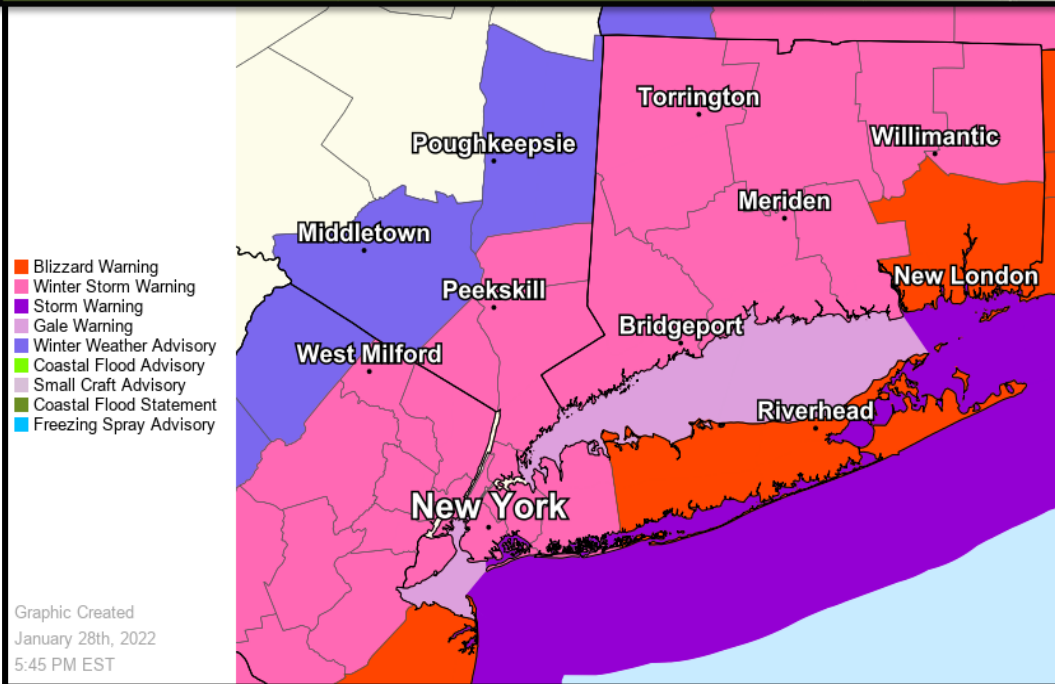
What's Changed?

Blizzard Warnings for Suffolk County and New London County for Tonight thru Saturday.






Upgrade to Storm Warnings for southern and eastern bays of LI on Saturday.

Coastal Flood Advisory for LI for Sat AM high tides

Current Hazards



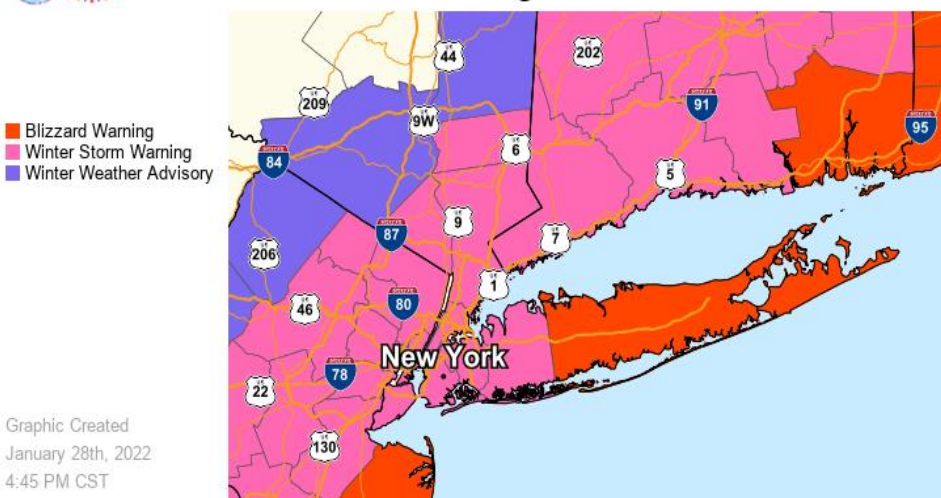
Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Heavy Snow 12-18" Blizzard Warning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowfall Rates of 1-3"/hr likely Dangerous to Impossible travel Blizzard conditions 	Eastern Long Island and Southeastern CT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow developing tonight Periods of heavy snow and blizzard conditions after 2am into Sat PM Snow tapering early Sat Eve
Snow 6-12" Winter Storm Warning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowfall Rates of up to 1"/hr likely Difficult Travel Near Blizzard conditions 	NYC, NE NJ, SW CT, and much of Lower Hudson Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow developing tonight Periods of moderate to briefly heavy snow after 2am into Sat Aft Snow tapering Sat Aft
Strong Winds 30-40G60mph E LI/SE CT 25-35G50mph NYC/NJ metro & rest of coast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scattered to numerous downed tree limbs and few to scattered downed trees. Power outages possible. 	Coastal Areas, including NYC/NJ metro Highest winds for E LI/ SE CT	Peak winds Saturday morning into early Saturday evening
Coastal Impacts 1 to locally 2 ft flooding above ground level (AGL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor to locally moderate coastal flood impacts Scattered dune erosion 	Greatest threat along twin forks, north shore of LI and barrier islands. Dune Impacts: Oceanfront	Times of high tide Saturday AM/PM and Sunday AM
Marine Gale / Storm conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seas 10-15 ft on the Ocean Seas 4-6 ft central/eastern Long Island Sound and twin forks 	Nearshore Waters	Tonight into Saturday Night

Moderate to Heavy Snow – Blizzard Conditions




Winter Watches Warnings and Advisories



Forecast Challenges:

Confidence is increasing in forecast snowfall amounts, but there is inherent uncertainty on the western extent and duration of moderate and heavy snow banding late tonight into Saturday. This will be refined as the event unfolds tonight into Saturday.

Hazards and Impacts:

Eastern LI and Southeastern CT – Blizzard Warning

- ✓ **Snow Accum:** 12-18", locally 2 ft possible.
- ✓ **Snowfall Rates:** 1-3"/hr possible
- ✓ **Snow Character:** Powdery snow
- ✓ **Temps:** Dropping into teens tonight and holding thru Sat. Around 10 F Sat Night / Windchills -5 to -10F
- ✓ **Impacts:** **Dangerous Travel, Blizzard conditions**

NYC, NE NJ, SW CT, W LI, Lower Hud – Winter Storm Warning

- ✓ **Snow Accum:** 6-12"
- ✓ **Snowfall Rates:** 1"/hr possible
- ✓ **Snow Character:** Powdery snow
- ✓ **Temps:** Dropping into teens tonight and holding thru Sat. Single digits to lower teens Sat Night / Windchills 0 to -14 F
- ✓ **Impacts:** **Difficult Travel, near blizzard conditions**

Orange County

- ✓ **Snow Accum:** 2-5"
- ✓ **Snow Character:** Powdery snow
- ✓ **Temps:** Dropping into lower to mid teens tonight and holding thru Sat. Single digits Sat Night / Windchills -10 to -15F
- ✓ **Impacts:** Hazardous Travel, Blowing snow

Timing:

- ✓ Snow developing tonight. Heaviest snow from tonight through Saturday Aft/Eve. Snow ending late Sat aft/eve.

Official NWS NY Snowfall Forecast

Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast

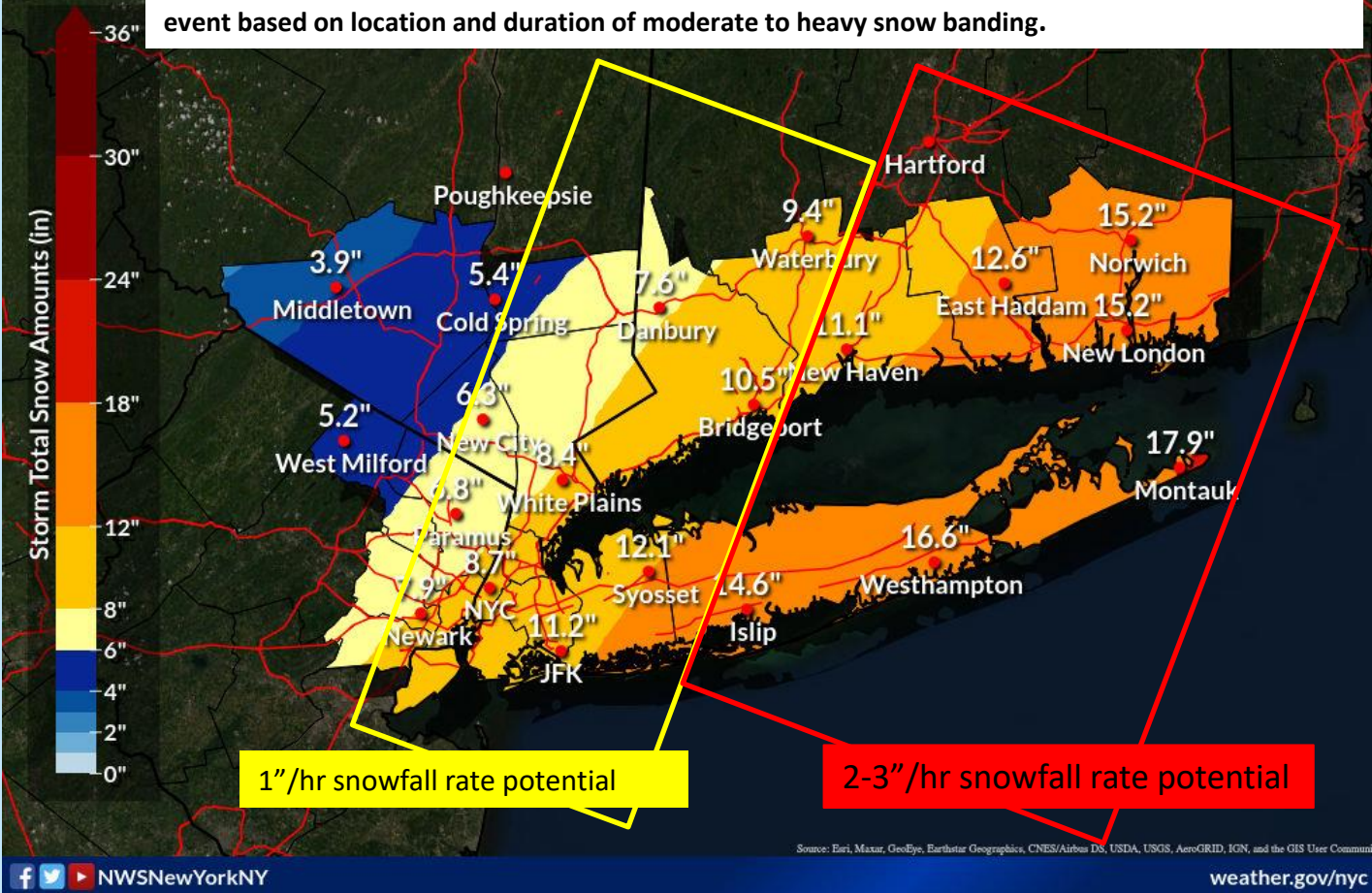
Weather Forecast Office
New York, NY

Valid 7 PM Fri Jan 28, 2022 through 1 AM Sun Jan 30, 2022 EST

Issued Jan 28, 2022 3:42 PM EST



Confidence is increasing in the snowfall forecast below, but adjustments are likely through the event based on location and duration of moderate to heavy snow banding.



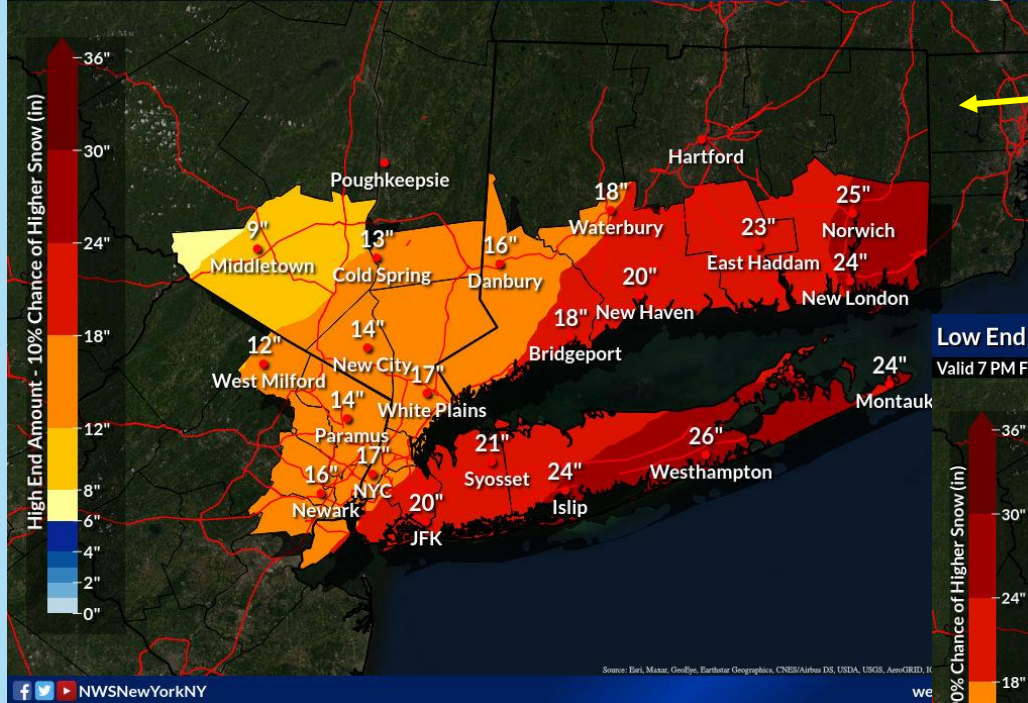
Probabilistic Snowfall Forecast Scenarios

High End Amount - 1 in 10 Chance (10%) Of Higher Snowfall

Valid 7 PM Fri Jan 28, 2022 through 1 AM Sun Jan 30, 2022 EST

Weather Forecast Office
New York, NY

Issued Jan 28, 2022 3:42 PM EST



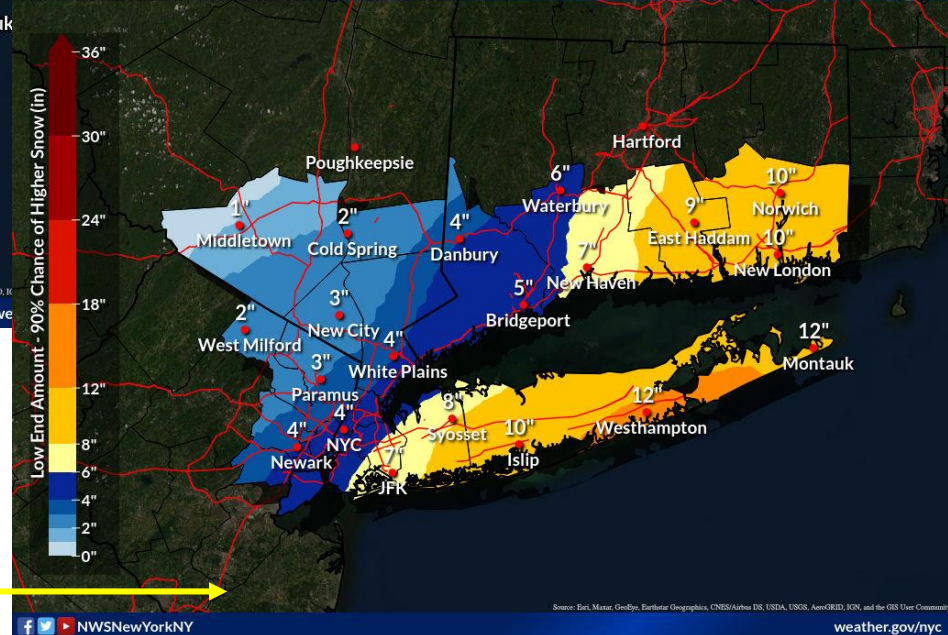
Snow amounts could be close to these levels in spots if heavy snow banding develops and persists over the area for several hours.

Low End Amount - 9 in 10 Chance (90%) Of Higher Snowfall

Valid 7 PM Fri Jan 28, 2022 through 1 AM Sun Jan 30, 2022 EST

Weather Forecast Office
New York, NY

Issued Jan 28, 2022 3:42 PM EST



Snow amounts would be this low if the eastern most storm scenarios occur. Highest confidence of 1 ft plus snow amounts across E LI and SE CT.

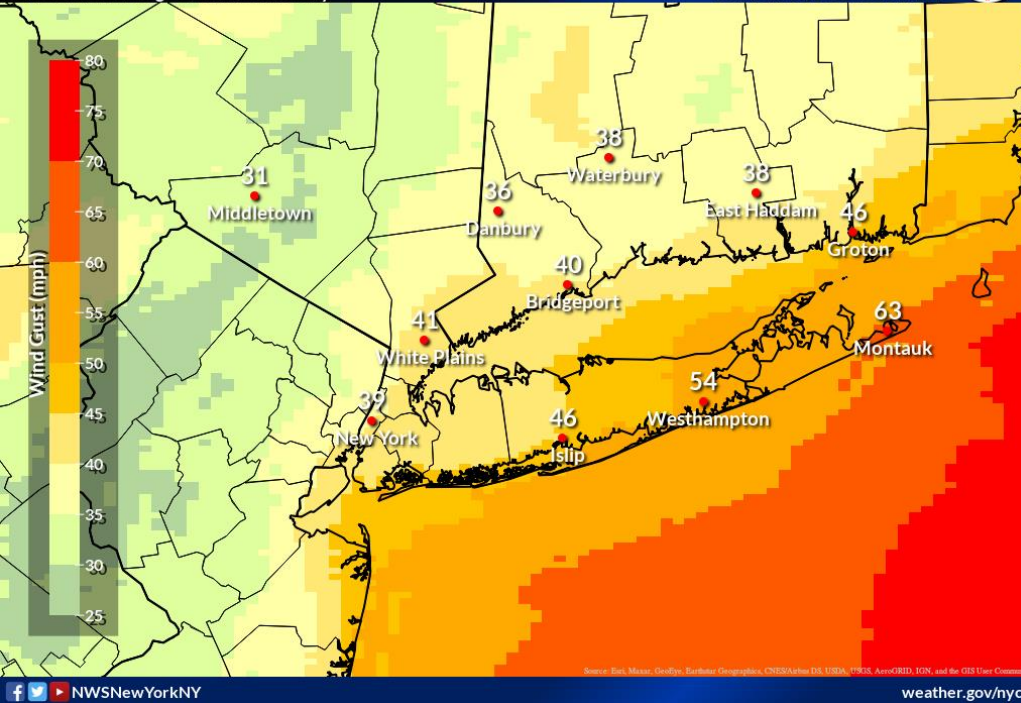
Strong to Damaging Wind Potential

Hazards and Impacts:

Maximum Wind Gust (mph)

Between 7PM tonight and 7PM Saturday

Weather Forecast Office
New York, NY
Issued Jan 28, 2022 4:03 PM EST



Eastern LI and Southeastern CT

- ✓ **Damaging Winds: N 25-40g50-60mph**
- ✓ **Impacts:** Numerous downed tree limbs and scattered downed trees. Power outages likely. **Dangerous to impossible travel with blizzard conditions.**

NYC/NJ metro, SW CT, S Westchester, W LI

- ✓ **Strong Winds: N 20-35 g 40-50 mph**
- ✓ **Impacts:** Scattered downed tree limbs. Power outages possible. **Difficult travel with near blizzard conditions.**

Interior portions of NE NJ, Lower Hud, and SW CT

- ✓ **Peak Winds: N 15-20 g 25-35 mph**
- ✓ **Impacts:** Hazardous travel with blowing snow

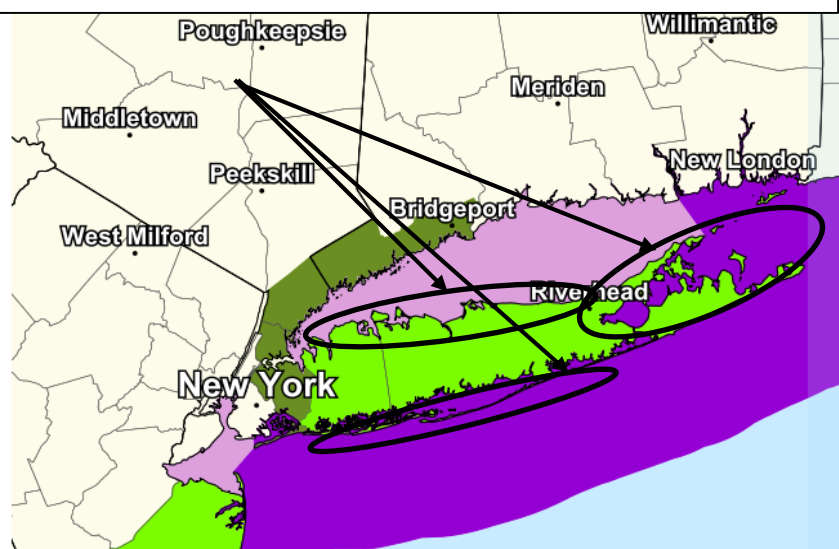
Timing:

- ✓ Strongest winds from early Saturday morning into Saturday Evening

Coastal Flooding

Marine / Coastal Hazards

Minor to localized moderate coastal flood impacts likely during Saturday AM high tides



Coastal Flood Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ **Sat AM – Coastal Flood Advisory** - Minor to locally moderate coastal flood impacts likely (flooding of 1 to locally 2 ft above ground), for vulnerable north shore communities of the twin forks of LI, north shore of LI, and north shore barrier island communities for the Saturday AM high tides. Elsewhere just localized minor impacts.
- ✓ **Impacts:** Several waterfront road closures possible and flooding of shoreline properties. Minor damage to shoreline structures possible.
- ✓ **Sat Night** - Minor to locally moderate coastal impacts possible for same area as above.
- ✓ **Sunday morning** - More widespread minor flooding possible, expanding into south shore bay communities of LI and Queens.

Shoreline Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ 4-8' breaking waves along the oceanfront with scattered areas of dune erosion. Overwashes are not likely.
- ✓ Minor to moderate erosion and wave splashover along the north shore of Long Island and twin forks from 3 to 5 ft surf during Sat AM through Sun AM high tides.

Timing:




- ✓ During times of high tide Saturday morning, possibly Saturday evening, and Sunday morning.

Forecast Challenges:

- ✓ Forecast for Sat PM and Sun AM high tides will have to be refined based on observations of surge and waves during the day Saturday. Sunday AM water levels will likely be forced by Ekman pumping and tidal piling in the bays.

For the latest coastal flood forecasts (hydrographs and tables) and the tools to visualize the potential coastal impacts (zoomable potential inundation map, impact catalogs, climatology, etc.) in your area of concern please go to the [NWS New York, NY Coastal Flooding Page](#)

Coastal Flooding Thresholds

	Minor (CF Advisory)	Moderate (CF Warning)	Major (Warning)
Picture	 Westport	 Lindenhurst	 New Haven
Hazard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low threat of property damage...and no direct threat to life. • 1 to 2 ft of inundation in shoreline and vulnerable areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated threat of property damage...with a risk to life if one places themselves in unnecessary danger. • 2 to 3 ft of inundation in shoreline and vulnerable areas. • Minor to no inundation of surrounding coastal communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant threat to life and property. • 3-5+ ft of inundation in shoreline and other vulnerable areas. • Minor to moderate inundation (1 to 3 ft) of surrounding coastal communities that rarely experience coastal flooding.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few shoreline and vulnerable roadways and adjacent properties will experience shallow flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several shoreline and vulnerable area home and businesses will experience water inside. • Several low-lying coastal and shoreline roads will be closed. • A few cars may take on water or even be destroyed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuations will be necessary for the most vulnerable shoreline and coastal areas. • Many coastal communities will experience damage...with some shoreline and flood prone homes and businesses being destroyed. • Many cars will likely be submerged or washed away. • Several sections of nearshore roads and escape routes will be impassable and a few could be washed out. • Flood waters may extend well inland in low lying areas.

Event Summary

- ✓ **E LI / SE CT - Blizzard Warning - 12 - 18" of snow likely, locally 2 ft possible.** Strong to damaging winds after midnight thru early Saturday evening. Dangerous to impossible travel with blizzard conditions expected Late Tonight through Saturday.
- ✓ **NYC, NE NJ, SW CT, S Westchester, W LI – Winter Storm Warning 6 - 12" of snow likely.** Strong winds late Tonight thru early Saturday evening. Difficult travel and near blizzard conditions Late Tonight into early Saturday afternoon.
- ✓ Minor to locally moderate coastal impacts likely for vulnerable north shore communities of the twin forks of LI, north shore of LI, and north shore barrier island communities for the Saturday AM high tides, possible Sat PM. More widespread minor flooding possible Sunday AM.
- ✓ Confidence is increasing in forecast snowfall amounts, but there is inherent uncertainty on the western extent and duration of moderate and heavy snow banding late tonight into Saturday. This will be refined as the event unfolds tonight into Saturday.