

WINTER STORM SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 29, 2011 EVENT

Synopsis

A rare and historic October Nor'easter delivered snow, heavy rain, and strong winds to the Mid Atlantic region on Saturday October 29, 2011. Low pressure organized off the Carolina coast late Friday night October 28th. This system strengthened as it tracked northeastward along the Eastern Seaboard Saturday morning October 29th. For many locations across New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, the precipitation began as rain before daybreak. By mid-morning, however, many areas throughout eastern Pennsylvania and northern to central New Jersey had changed over to snow or a rain/snow mix as temperatures steadily dropped into the middle and lower 30s. Sleet was also reported across parts of the region, including into northern Delaware. Elsewhere, moderate to heavy rain continued throughout the day into central and southern Delaware and the eastern shore of Maryland.

Heavy, wet snow aided by strong winds resulted in tree and power line damage across northern New Jersey and northeast Pennsylvania by Saturday afternoon as the low pressure system churned northward along the Mid Atlantic coast. Gale force winds buffeted the New Jersey and Delaware coastlines. By mid to late evening, the last remaining bands of precipitation pushed through the region from southwest to northeast as the low pressure system exited the region.

Watches/Warnings/Advisories

A Winter Storm Watch was issued at 315 PM Thursday October 27 for the following areas: Sussex, Warren, and Morris in New Jersey; Carbon, Monroe, Berks, Lehigh, and Northampton in Pennsylvania. A Winter Storm Warning was issued at 352 PM Friday October 28 for the following areas: Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, and Somerset in New Jersey; Carbon, Monroe, Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Chester, Montgomery, and Bucks in Pennsylvania. Also at 352 PM Friday October 28, a Winter Weather Advisory was issued for the following areas: Middlesex, Western Monmouth, Mercer, Salem, Gloucester, Camden, and Northwestern Burlington in New Jersey; Delaware and Philadelphia and Pennsylvania; New Castle in Delaware; Cecil in Maryland. At 1258 PM Saturday October 29, a Winter Storm Warning was issued for the following areas: Middlesex and Mercer in New Jersey. At 1119 PM Saturday October 29, all Winter Storm Warnings and Winter Weather Advisories were cancelled.

Precipitation/Temperatures/Winds

A heavy, wet snow resulted in historic October snow accumulations throughout eastern Pennsylvania and northern to western New Jersey. A swath of 8 to 16 inches was measured across the Poconos, Lehigh Valley, and Berks county Pennsylvania and into the mountains of northwest New Jersey. The highest snowfall totals were recorded over the higher elevations of Carbon, Monroe, Lehigh, Bucks, Sussex, Warren, and Morris counties. North-central New Jersey also received significant snow accumulations from this rare October snowstorm, with 8 to 12 inches recorded over the higher terrain of Hunterdon and Somerset counties and 4 to 8 inches measured elsewhere across Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset, and Hunterdon counties. Meanwhile, the lower Delaware Valley experienced a rain/snow/sleet mixture throughout the course of this winter storm. Locations across Delaware, Philadelphia, Gloucester, Camden, and northwestern Burlington counties recorded 1 to 3 inches accumulation. Temperatures throughout the region were in the middle to lower 30s for most of this event, resulting in a heavy, wet snow that quickly

accumulated on trees and power lines. The heavy snowfall combined with strong northerly to northeasterly winds, ranging from 15 to 25 mph and gusting up to 35 mph, resulted in downed trees and electric lines.

Along coastal locations of New Jersey and Delaware, gale force winds were measured and minor coastal flooding occurred. Tuckerton Shores in Ocean county New Jersey recorded a 54 mph wind gust, and Ocean city in Cape May county New Jersey measured a 51 mph gust. Strong winds were also felt into portions of Delaware, with a 49 mph gust recorded at Lewes and a 47 mph gust measured at Dover Airforce Base.

In locations where temperatures remained in the upper 30s to lower 40s, moderate to heavy rain fell throughout the day. From the eastern shore of Maryland into Delaware and southern New Jersey, rainfall totals ranged between 1 and 2 inches. For other locations in northern New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania where rain changed over or mixed with snow, liquid equivalents from the storm also ranged from 1 to 2 inches of precipitation.

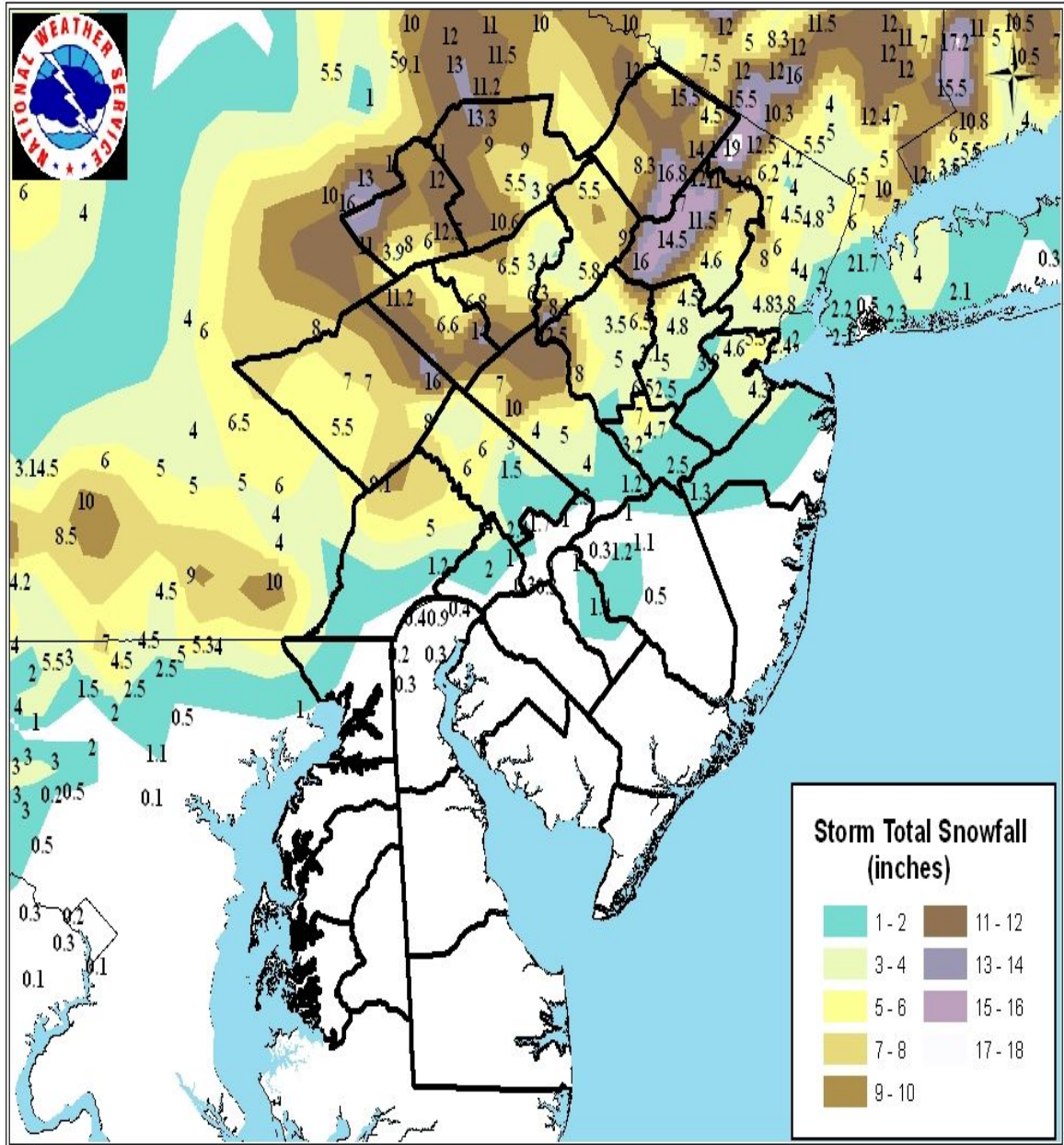
Significant Impacts/Aspects

This early season winter storm created substantial transportation delays and utility outages across eastern Pennsylvania and northern to central New Jersey. After mild conditions through much of October, many trees throughout the region still had their leaves. The wet snow and gusty winds from this storm system resulted in many trees and power lines bending and breaking under the weight of the heavy snow. Widespread power outages were reported throughout the Poconos, Lehigh Valley, and northern New Jersey, with hundreds of thousands of customers being without electricity during the storm. In addition to significant utility outages, downed trees and power lines resulted in numerous closings of local and secondary roads. Slippery road conditions also contributed to a few fatalities in traffic accidents across the region. A downed tree onto a house in Berks county Pennsylvania also resulted in a fatality. Finally, air transportation was also greatly impacted during the height of the storm, with dozens of flights being cancelled at the Philadelphia International Airport.

Notes

Information contained in this summary is preliminary. More complete and/or detailed information may be contained in subsequent monthly NOAA storm data publications.

Storm Total Snowfall - October 29th 2011



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NOUS41 KPHI 301833

PNSPHI

DEZ001>004-MDZ008-012-015-019-020-NJZ001-007>010-012>027-PAZ054-055-060>062-067>071-310318-

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT

SPOTTER REPORTS

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MOUNT HOLLY NJ

233 PM EDT SUN OCT 30 2011

THE FOLLOWING ARE UNOFFICIAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS FOR THE STORM THAT HAS BEEN AFFECTING OUR REGION. APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED

TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS...COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS...SKYWARN SPOTTERS AND MEDIA FOR THESE REPORTS. THIS SUMMARY IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR HOME PAGE AT WEATHER.GOV/PHI

*****STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL*****

LOCATION	STORM TOTAL	TIME/DATE	COMMENTS
	SNOWFALL	OF	
	/INCHES/	MEASUREMENT	

DELAWARE

...NEW CASTLE COUNTY...

GREENVILLE	0.9	835 PM 10/29	
TALLEYS CORNER	0.4	836 PM 10/29	
HOCKESSIN	0.4	830 PM 10/29	
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	0.3	800 PM 10/29	
NEWARK	0.2	600 PM 10/29	

NEW JERSEY

...BURLINGTON COUNTY...

MOUNT LAUREL	1.2	1036 PM 10/29	
FLORENCE	1.2	1138 PM 10/29	
MOUNT HOLLY WFO	1.1	100 AM 10/30	
TABERNACLE	0.5	954 PM 10/29	

...CAMDEN COUNTY...

CHERRY HILL	1.0	713 PM 10/29	
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...GLOUCESTER COUNTY...

NATIONAL PARK	0.3	800 PM 10/29	SLEET SNOW MIX
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...HUNTERDON COUNTY...

HOLLAND TWP	12.5	700 AM 10/30	
2 SE WARREN GLEN	12.5	614 PM 10/29	
KINGWOOD	8.0	924 PM 10/29	
WHITEHOUSE STATION	6.5	642 PM 10/29	
FLEMINGTON	5.0	700 AM 10/30	

...MERCER COUNTY...

HOPEWELL TWP	7.0	700	AM	10/30
PENNINGTON	7.0	700	AM	10/30
HOPEWELL	6.5	903	PM	10/29
EWING	3.2	1106	PM	10/29

...MIDDLESEX COUNTY...

WOODBIDGE	5.6	1149	PM	10/29
WOODBIDGE TWP	5.3	821	PM	10/29
METUCHEN	4.6	1154	PM	10/29
CHEESEQUAKE	4.3	138	AM	10/30

...MONMOUTH COUNTY...

CREAM RIDGE	1.3	700	AM	10/30
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...MORRIS COUNTY...

LAKE HOPATCONG	17.0	700	AM	10/30
MARCELLA	16.6	917	AM	10/30
ROCKAWAY	16.4	1225	AM	10/30
LONG VALLEY	16.0	1137	PM	10/29
1 W RANDOLPH TWP	14.5	745	PM	10/29
MILTON	12.0	700	AM	10/30
GREEN POND	11.0	610	PM	10/29
BUTLER	10.0	918	PM	10/29
MORRISTOWN	4.6	835	PM	10/29

...SOMERSET COUNTY...

BRIDGEWATER TWP	4.8	642	PM	10/29
SOMERSET	3.8	630	PM	10/29

...SUSSEX COUNTY...

SPARTA	16.8	1226	AM	10/30
WANTAGE	15.5	152	AM	10/30
NEWTON	8.3	935	PM	10/29
VERNON	4.5	836	PM	10/29

...WARREN COUNTY...

WARREN GLEN	15.5	700	AM	10/30
HACKETTSTOWN	9.0	1110	PM	10/29
STEWARTSVILLE	8.1	813	PM	10/29
PHILLIPSBURG	6.3	916	PM	10/29
1 ENE WASHINGTON	5.8	945	PM	10/29
1 W BLAIRSTOWN	5.5	700	AM	10/30
BLAIRSTOWN	4.9	1000	PM	10/29

PENNSYLVANIA

...BERKS COUNTY...

HUFFS CHURCH	16.0	913	PM	10/29
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BOYERTOWN	8.0	825	PM	10/29
BLANDON	7.0	655	PM	10/29
LEESPORT	7.0	1010	PM	10/29
WEST LAWN	5.5	900	PM	10/29
BECHTELSVILLE	3.0	700	AM	10/30

...BUCKS COUNTY...

SPRINGTOWN	16.0	700	AM	10/30
PERKASIE	10.0	700	AM	10/30
QUAKERTOWN	7.0	1014	PM	10/29
FURLONG	5.0	700	AM	10/30
MORRISVILLE	3.2	157	AM	10/30

...CARBON COUNTY...

SUMMIT HILL	13.5	700	AM	10/30
TOWAMENSING TWP	12.5	831	PM	10/29
ALBRIGHTSVILLE	12.0	827	PM	10/29
LANSFORD	11.0	830	PM	10/29
LEHIGHTON	8.0	829	PM	10/29
BELTZVILLE	6.0	830	PM	10/29

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...CHESTER COUNTY...

ELVERSON	9.1	855	PM	10/29
EXTON	5.0	958	PM	10/29

...DELAWARE COUNTY...

WAYNE	4.0	1107	PM	10/29
MEDIA	2.0	700	AM	10/30
DREXEL HILL	1.0	1014	PM	10/29

...LEHIGH COUNTY...

SALISBURY TWP	14.0	700	AM	10/30
NEW TRIPOLI	11.2	925	PM	10/29
MACUNGIE	9.4	700	AM	10/30
ALLENTOWN AIRPORT	6.8	800	PM	10/29

...MONROE COUNTY...

TOBYHANNA	13.3	1045	PM	10/29
BOSSARDSVILLE	11.5	700	AM	10/30
BLAKESLEE	11.0	828	PM	10/29
SAYLORSBURG	10.6	912	PM	10/29
POCONO SUMMIT	9.0	829	PM	10/29
HENRYVILLE	9.0	725	PM	10/29
DELAWARE WATER GAP	8.0	700	AM	10/30
BARTONSVILLE	5.5	829	PM	10/29
EAST STROUDSBURG	5.2	700	AM	10/30
STROUDSBURG	3.0	828	PM	10/29

...MONTGOMERY COUNTY...

MONTGOMERYVILLE	6.1	115 AM	10/30
TRAPPE	6.0	700 AM	10/30
LAFAYETTE	2.5	700 AM	10/30
WYNNEWOOD	2.4	1138 PM	10/29

...NORTHAMPTON COUNTY...

BUSHKILL TWP	9.5	800 PM	10/29
MARTINS CREEK	3.4	710 PM	10/29

...PHILADELPHIA COUNTY...

SOMERTON	1.3	130 AM	10/30
PHILADELPHIA INTL AI	0.3	800 PM	10/29 SLEET SNOW MIX.

*****24 HOUR SNOWFALL*****

LOCATION	24 HOUR SNOWFALL	TIME/DATE	COMMENTS
	/INCHES/	OF MEASUREMENT	

DELAWARE

...NEW CASTLE COUNTY...

2 SE GLASGOW	0.3	700 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
4 SSW NEWARK	0.2	700 AM	10/30 COCORAHS

NEW JERSEY

...BURLINGTON COUNTY...

3 ENE MOUNT LAUREL T	1.2	800 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
2 E BURLINGTON	1.0	900 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
3 NNW TABERNACLE TWP	0.8	700 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
1 SE MOORESTOWN TWP	0.3	832 AM	10/30 COCORAHS

...CAMDEN COUNTY...

1 WNW BERLIN TWP	1.4	900 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
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...HUNTERDON COUNTY...

3 NNE HOLLAND TWP	12.3	900 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
E FLEMINGTON	4.2	630 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
3 SW LEBANON	3.5	700 AM	10/30 COCORAHS

...MERCER COUNTY...

1 NNW LAWRENCE TWP	4.7	530 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
2 WSW WASHINGTON TWP	2.5	800 AM	10/30 COCORAHS
2 SSW LAWRENCE TWP	1.7	800 AM	10/30 COCORAHS

...MORRIS COUNTY...

1 NE ROCKAWAY TWP	16.6	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
1 W RANDOLPH TWP	14.5	830 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
NNW ROCKAWAY	11.5	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
2 SSE BOONTON TWP	7.0	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS

...OCEAN COUNTY...

1 SW POINT PLEASANT	0.3	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...SOMERSET COUNTY...

ENE HILLSBOROUGH TWP	5.0	435 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
1 NNW BERNARDS TWP	4.5	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
3 NW BRIDGEWATER TWP	4.5	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
1 N HILLSBOROUGH TWP	4.5	900 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
4 ENE FRANKLIN TWP	3.5	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
2 NW HILLSBOROUGH TW	3.1	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
2 NNE MONTGOMERY TWP	2.5	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS

...SUSSEX COUNTY...

3 SE HARDYSTON TWP	14.1	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...WARREN COUNTY...

2 SE BLAIRSTOWN TWP	10.8	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
1 W HACKETTSTOWN	9.0	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
2 S GREENWICH TWP	8.1	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS

PENNSYLVANIA

...BERKS COUNTY...

1 SSE WEST LAWN	5.5	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...BUCKS COUNTY...

1 SE RICHBORO	4.0	600 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
4 W DOYLESTOWN	4.0	900 AM	10/30	COCORAHS

...CARBON COUNTY...

3 WSW LEHIGHTON	3.9	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...CHESTER COUNTY...

2 SSE WEST CHESTER	1.2	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...LEHIGH COUNTY...

4 W ALLENTOWN	6.6	745 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
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...MONTGOMERY COUNTY...

1 NNW SOUDERTON	6.5	800 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
2 SW HARLEYSVILLE	6.0	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS
3 SSW KULPSVILLE	3.3	700 AM	10/30	COCORAHS

SSW HATFIELD	3.0	600 AM 10/30	COCORAHS
1 WSW NORTH WALES	1.5	700 AM 10/30	COCORAHS

...NORTHAMPTON COUNTY...

2 N NAZARETH	6.5	700 AM 10/30	COCORAHS
E MARTINS CREEK	3.4	700 AM 10/30	COCORAHS

...PHILADELPHIA COUNTY...

3 SSW WYNDMOOR	1.7	700 AM 10/30	COCORAHS
5 NE PHILADELPHIA	1.0	700 AM 10/30	COCORAHS

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