

# **CECIL COUNTY**

# **KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

## ***REFERENCE TIDE GAUGE - TOLCHESTER BEACH***

The Tolchester Beach tide gauge is located in western Kent County.

High tide at Charlestown (Cecil County) occurs about 3¼ hours later than the high tide at Tolchester Beach. Low tide is around 3½ hours later.

Historically, in Cecil County and Kent County moderate to major tidal flooding has only occurred with a southerly flow. Northeasters tend to produce minor tidal flooding at most in the two counties.

### ***Cecil County***

#### **In the minor range:**

Flooding begins in Charlestown along the North East River.

### ***Kent County***

#### **In the minor range:**

Flooding begins in Rock Hall, Skinners Neck, Piney Neck, McKinleyville and Cliffs City.

Flooding begins along the Chester River in Chestertown and also south of Chestertown along Quaker Neck Road.

### ***Data Acquisition***

In order to access data from the Tolchester Beach gauge, use the National Ocean Service web site at <http://tidesonline.nos.noaa.gov/> or the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service site at <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=phi>.

## ***REFERENCE TIDE GAUGE - TOLCHESTER BEACH***

The tide heights from actual events referenced in the following table are those that were verified by the National Ocean Service.

THE PERIOD OF RECORD FOR THE TOLCHESTER BEACH GAUGE BEGINS IN JUNE 1971. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE GAPS WITHIN THE PERIOD OF RECORD DUE TO EQUIPMENT OUTAGES AND/OR DATA AVAILABILITY.

ALL HEIGHTS ARE IN MEAN LOWER LOW WATER (**MLLW**).

7.9 FT — September 19, 2003 (Hurricane Isabel)

**5.5 FT — MAJOR TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**

At this level, widespread roadway flooding begins near the bay and its tidal tributaries. Vulnerable homes and businesses may be damaged as water levels rise further above this threshold. Numerous roads become impassable and some neighborhoods may be isolated. The flood waters become a danger to anyone who attempts to cross on foot or in a vehicle.

4.9 FT — September 7, 1996 (Hurricane Fran)

September 27, 2009

4.8 FT — October 30, 2012 (Post Tropical Cyclone Sandy)

4.6 FT — March 19, 1983

**4.5 FT — MODERATE TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**

At this level, additional roadways near the bay and its tidal tributaries begin to flood. Lives may be at risk when people put themselves in harm's way. Some damage to vulnerable structures may begin to occur.

January 25, 2010

October 4, 2014

**3.8 FT — COASTAL FLOOD ADVISORY THRESHOLD.**

**3.5 FT — MINOR TIDAL FLOODING BEGINS.**