



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1999

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOT RECEIVED.

MARYLAND, Central

Montgomery County
Potomac

09 1720EST 0 0 10K Lightning

House fire started by lightning

St. Mary'S County
Hunterville

09 1720EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

Calvert County
4 N Buena Vista to
Prince Frederick

09 1730EST 0 0 Hail (1.50)

Calvert County
Island Creek to
St Leonard

09 1730EST 0 0 Hail (1.25)

Calvert County
Solomons to
Bertha

09 1730EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

St. Mary'S County
Golden Beach

09 1737EST 0 0 Hail (1.25)

A strong cold front moved eastward across Central Maryland during the early evening. A line of showers and thunderstorms developed along and ahead of the system producing heavy downpours, frequent lightning, and gusty winds. A lightning strike sparked a tree fire in Charles County near Bel Alton around 5:50 PM EDT. A house in Montgomery County near Potomac caught on fire after being hit by lightning around 6:20 PM EDT. One thunderstorm that developed about 50 miles ahead of the cold front in South Central Maryland dropped large hail across St. Mary's and Calvert County between 6:00 PM and 6:45 PM EDT. Hail between 1 and 1 1/2 inch in diameter was reported in the communities of Bowens, Adelina, Port Republic, Mutual, and St. Leonard in Calvert County. The shower of large hail accumulated enough to cause travel problems on area roads. In St. Mary's County, dime to half dollar sized hail was reported in Golden Beach and quarter sized hail fell in Huntersville. In addition, winds gusted to 53 MPH in Tall Timbers at 7:29 PM EDT.

Charles County
Newport

23 1530EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

Charles County
5 S La Plata

23 1537EST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

St. Mary'S County
Golden Beach

23 1537EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

Calvert County
Island Creek

23 1540EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

Calvert County
Prince Frederick

23 1545EST 0 0 Hail (1.50)

Charles County
Bryans Road

23 1600EST 0 0 Hail (1.25)

Prince George'S County
Accokeek

23 1602EST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

Charles County
Waldorf

23 1630EST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

St. Mary'S County
Golden Beach

23 1635EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)

St. Mary'S County
Sandgates

23 1635EST 0 0 Hail (1.00)



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MARYLAND, Central

Calvert County

Lusby **23** **1642EST** **0** **0** **Hail (0.75)**

Calvert County

Solomons **23** **1642EST** **0** **0** **Hail (1.50)**

Two severe thunderstorms moved across the Potomac River into South Central Maryland during the mid afternoon. The first storm tracked across Central Charles County, Southeast Prince George's County, and Northern Calvert County between 4:20 PM and 4:45 PM EDT. Three quarter to one and one quarter inch diameter hail fell from this storm in a band from Indian Head and Nanjemoy to Chesapeake Beach and Prince Frederick. A second storm tracked across Southern Prince George's, Northern Charles, Southern Calvert, and Northern St. Mary's County between 5:00 PM and 5:40 PM EDT. This storm produced three quarter to one and one quarter inch diameter hail in a band roughly 10 miles wide from Bryans Road to Solomons. Heavy rain accompanying the storm contributed to a serious car accident on Highway 2-4 north of Lusby where an elderly woman was killed.

VIRGINIA, North

Nelson County

Afton **02** **1430EST** **0** **0** **2K** **5K** **Wild/Forest Fire**

03 **0600EST**
Fire on Afton Mountain burned over 400 acres

A fire ignited on the base of Afton Mountain in extreme Northern Nelson County around 3:30 PM EDT on the 2nd. It quickly spread up the face of the mountain, driven by strong west winds. Dead vegetation from a winter ice storm and less than normal precipitation led to very dry conditions and this helped to fuel the fire. Nearly 200 firefighters, 5 bulldozers, a hummer, and two helicopters worked through the night to stop the progress of the blaze which threatened several homes on the top of the mountain. The team was able to bring the fire under control by daybreak on the 3rd, and keep all but one roof of a home from catching fire. The fire burned over 400 acres before being extinguished.

Culpeper County

Jeffersonton **04** **1500EST** **1** **0** **Lightning**

Man struck by lightning on golf course

Around 4:00 PM EDT, a 37-year-old man was struck by lightning on the South Wales Golf Course near Jeffersonton in extreme northern Culpeper County. A line of thunderstorms producing heavy downpours crossed Northern Virginia during the afternoon and was responsible for the fatal bolt of lightning. The victim was standing under a cedar tree on the 17th hole to take refuge from the thunderstorm when the lightning struck. The bolt hit the tree first, then hit the victim in the head and stopped his heart. A witness said the lightning apparently exited the tree near the base, citing burn marks visible on the trunk inches from the surface and around 5 1/2 feet above the ground. The victim was discovered around 4:10 PM by golfers returning to the course. Emergency medical personnel reached the victim around 4:20 PM EDT and were able to restore vital signs, but the victim died around 11:00 PM EDT after his heart failed for a second time. This was Virginia's first known April lightning fatality. M37UT

Orange County

Mine Run **09** **1710EST** **0** **0** **10K** **Thunderstorm Wind**

1715EST
Trees Downed

Spotsylvania County

West Portion **09** **1715EST** **0** **0** **10K** **Thunderstorm Wind**

1725EST
Trees Downed and Minor Damage to Roofs

Spotsylvania County

1 NE Paytes to **09** **1717EST** **3.5** **100** **0** **0** **20K** **Tornado (F1)**

2.5 SE Paytes

1723EST
Several sheds destroyed, Trees Downed, Minor Damage to Homes

Fredericksburg (C)

Fredericksburg **09** **1800EST** **0** **0** **2K** **Thunderstorm Wind**

Trees and Power Lines Downed

Between 6:10 PM and 6:25 PM EDT, a line of thunderstorms moved east from Orange County into Spotsylvania County. Strong winds associated with the gust front ahead of the storms produced scattered tree damage in Eastern Orange County and Western Spotsylvania County. Areas affected include Gold Dale, Mine Run, Paytes, Granite Springs, and Porters. Over 100 trees were damaged; some were uprooted, some were snapped, and others lost large branches. The strong winds also bent several home antennas and blew off several roof shingles. A small tornado developed with one of the storms near Mine Run. The tornado first touched down around 6:17 PM EDT on the Orange/Spotsylvania County line in a small community 1 mile north of Paytes. The



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VIRGINIA, North

tornado travelled southeast about 3 1/2 miles and lifted just east of Mastins Corner around 6:23 PM EDT. The average path width was about 100 yards. Much of the damage was rated F0 for 40 to 70 mph winds, but some locations received 70 to 90 mph winds and F1 damage. The F1 damage occurred around 2 miles east of Paytes through a densely wooded area where numerous large trees, both pines and hardwoods, were uprooted or snapped. The hardwoods did not have leaves at the time, so a stronger wind was required to damage them. Eight homes along the path of the tornado sustained minor damage, and seven sheds were damaged or destroyed. Most of the structural damage occurred in a residential community 1 mile northeast of Paytes. The same storm system was also responsible for downing trees and power lines as it passed through the Fredericksburg area. The storm hit Fredericksburg around 7:00 PM EDT and left about 5,000 customers without power.

Frederick County Hayfield	23	1440EST			0	0	50K		Hail (1.75)
Frederick County 1 W Winchester Arpt	23	1445EST			0	0	1.5M		Hail (1.75)
Frederick County 5 NW Winchester Arpt	23	1445EST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind
Narrow Path of Uprooted and Snapped Trees and Damage to Trim on Home									
Frederick County Stephens City	23	1446EST			0	0	50K		Hail (1.75)
Winchester (C) Winchester	23	1450EST			0	0	2.5M		Hail (2.75)
Frederick County 1 E Winchester Arpt	23	1452EST			0	0	3M		Hail (3.50)
Clarke County Berryville	23	1454EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.75)
Clarke County Boyce	23	1500EST			0	0	50K		Hail (1.50)
Clarke County Boyce to 4 E Boyce	23	1500EST 1505EST			0	0	50K		Thunderstorm Wind
Trees Snapped and Uprooted from Boyce to the Shenandoah River									
Stafford County 5 NW Stafford	23	1500EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.75)
Clarke County 4 SE Boyce	23	1515EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.75)
Hail Fell at Mt. Weather on the border of Clarke and Loudoun County									
Fauquier County Upperville	23	1520EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.50)
Hail Size Estimated by Damage									
Loudoun County Middleburg	23	1520EST			0	0	2M		Hail (2.75)
Loudoun County Aldie	23	1522EST			0	0	2M		Hail (1.50)
Hail Size Estimated by Damage									
Loudoun County 2 S Arcola	23	1525EST			0	0	3M		Hail (1.75)
Many Cars and Homes Damaged by Hail in South Riding Community									
Prince William County 9 N Haymarket	23	1525EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.75)
Fairfax County Clifton	23	1530EST			0	0	2M		Hail (1.75)



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VIRGINIA, North

Fairfax County									
Chantilly	23	1533EST			0	0	2M		Hail (1.25)
Manassas (C)									
Manassas	23	1535EST			0	0	2M		Hail (1.25)
Hail Size Estimated by Damage									
Prince William County									
Woodbridge	23	1540EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.00)
Fairfax County									
Centreville	23	1542EST			0	0	3M		Hail (1.75)
Fairfax (C)									
Fairfax	23	1543EST			0	0	2M		Hail (1.00)
Fairfax County									
Springfield	23	1545EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.75)
Fairfax County									
Clifton	23	1547EST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
Fairfax County									
Lorton	23	1550EST			0	0	2M		Hail (2.75)
Fairfax County									
Burke	23	1555EST			0	0	3M		Hail (1.25)
Fairfax County									
2 SW Springfield	23	1600EST			0	0	1M		Hail (2.50)
Fairfax County									
Ft Belvoir	23	1602EST			0	0	1M		Hail (1.25)

A line of thunderstorms developed in West Virginia during the early afternoon and moved rapidly southeast across Northern Virginia. These storms produced very large hail in a 10 mile wide strip from Winchester in Frederick County to Woodbridge in Prince William County from 3:30 PM EDT to 5:00 PM EDT. Winds over 55 MPH also downed trees and power lines in Frederick and Clarke County between 3:30 PM EDT and 4:15 PM EDT. Frederick County spotters reported between 1 3/4 to 3 1/2 inch diameter hail. The rubber membrane roof of the War Memorial Building in Winchester was punctured by hail the size of golf balls, allowing heavy rain to fall inside the structure and cause significant water damage. Numerous cars were damaged by hail, averaging \$1300 in repairs. Winchester city police reported damage to 15 cruisers, and automobile dealers on Valley Avenue reported damage to over 150 cars. Hundreds of other privately owned vehicles received dents and broken windshields. Property owners also reported damage to roofs, siding, windows, and landscaping from the 10 minute deluge. Northwest of Winchester, strong winds left behind a narrow path of uprooted or snapped trees and minor trim damage to a home. Clarke County was the next location in the path of the storm. Hail of up to 1 3/4 inch in diameter tore leaves from trees, damaged siding and shingles on homes, and dented automobiles. Strong winds also snapped or uprooted between Beacon and the Shenandoah River. Next, Southern Loudoun County bore the brunt of the storm. Golfball to baseball sized hail broke store windows and damaged several vehicles in Middleburg. One resident reported the hail fell with such force it broke through fibreglass panels on a shed. Prince William County suffered damage from hail between 1 and 1 3/4 inch in diameter, resulting in damage to cars, roofs, and siding. Much of Western and Southern Fairfax County also received significant damage. Hail up to 2 3/4 inch in diameter was reported around Lorton. Hundreds of cars were dented, several windows and skylights were broken, trees and bushes were stripped of their leaves, siding and shutters were damaged, and roof shingles were chipped. Also, a funnel cloud was reported in Clifton near Highway 28 at 4:47 PM EDT. Damage across Northern Virginia from this storm system was expected to total around \$50 million.

Highland County									
North Portion	23	1600EST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Charlottesville (C)									
1 N Charlottesville	23	1645EST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Charlottesville (C)									
Charlottesville	23	1650EST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind

Trees Snapped and Power Lines Downed

A thunderstorm formed in East Central West Virginia and moved into Highland County. One half to one inch diameter hail fell across the northern part of the county around 5:00 PM EDT. The storm moved southeast across Northern Augusta County and into Albemarle County by early evening. In Albemarle County the storm produced winds in excess of 55 MPH and 1 inch diameter



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

VIRGINIA, North

hail. The wind snapped several trees and knocked down power lines near Charlottesville, leading to power outages for 4,200 customers.

WEST VIRGINIA, East

Grant County

Bayard	11	1352EST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
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Moist air in place across the Eastern Panhandle in combination with warm temperatures led to the development of thunderstorms during the early afternoon. These thunderstorms produced heavy downpours, lightning, and gusty winds. One of the strongest thunderstorms moved across Grant County and produced one inch diameter hail in Bayard at 2:52 PM EDT.

Mineral County

Keyser	23	1358EST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
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Mineral County

Headsville	23	1405EST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
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Hampshire County

Capon Bridge	23	1425EST			0	0			Hail (1.50)
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Hampshire County

Romney	23	1425EST			0	0			Hail (1.50)
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Hampshire County

Augusta	23	1430EST			0	0			Hail (1.25)
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Hampshire County

Augusta	23	1430EST			0	0	0.50K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Tree Downed Across Route 50

Pendleton County

Upper Track	23	1430EST			0	0	0.50K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Tree Downed Across Reeds Creek Road

Hampshire County

Capon Bridge	23	1435EST			0	0			Hail (2.75)
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A severe thunderstorm developed in the Appalachian Mountains of North Central West Virginia during the early afternoon and moved rapidly eastward into the Eastern Panhandle. This supercell storm produced large hail in a 10 mile wide strip from Keyser in Mineral County to Capon Bridge in Hampshire County from 2:55 PM to 3:35 PM EDT. Near Romney, the hail broke off small limbs and pelted shrubs. In Hampshire County, winds over 55 MPH pushed a tree over onto U.S. Route 50 near Augusta and blew over an electric service pole near a mobile home. The wind also downed large branches and snapped trees near Hanging Rock. A separate thunderstorm with strong winds also downed trees on Reeds Creek Road near Upper Track in Pendleton County around 3:30 PM EDT.