



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Killed	Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
<u>CONNECTICUT, Northeast</u>									
Hartford County									
Simsbury	03	1515EST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Windham County									
Chaplin	03	1640EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Several large trees up to two feet in diameter were blown down in Simsbury in Hartford County. Dime size hail was reported in Chaplin in Windham County. Up to 19,000 electric customers lost power statewide as a result of lightning strikes and gusty thunderstorm winds.									
Windham County									
Windham	09	1440EST			0	0			Hail(0.88)
Hartford County									
Countywide	29	1000EST 1200EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
Hartford County									
Manchester	29	1045EST			0	0	500K		Flash Flood
A cold front moving very slowly across Connecticut caused an area of showers and thunderstorms that produced intense rainfall amounts of 3 to 6 inches in 1 to 3 hours across parts of Hartford County. A flash flood occurred in Manchester where Bigelow Brook rose at least 6 feet out of its banks, flooding roads and basements. Sixteen homes received extensive water damage. A majority of these had basement flooding. Three homes had total basement failure or collapse. One home was completely flooded out of commission. Many residents had to be evacuated to local shelters. Electric power was disrupted for 1,200 customers. A local shopping area also was flooded. An estimated 6 to 12 automobiles received extensive water damage when water rose to at least as high as the windows. Property damage was likely a half of a million dollars. Maximum rainfall totals reached 5 to 6 inches in the area of the flash flood and there was extensive urban street flooding in addition to the flash flood. The cloudburst was really confined to Manchester. Only one town away in Vernon, there was heavy rain but no flooding was reported.									
<u>MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East</u>									
Middlesex County									
Burlington	03	1615EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Middlesex County									
Waltham to Somerville	03	1644EST 1702EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
Essex County									
Newburyport	03	1700EST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Strong thunderstorms moved through parts of Middlesex and Essex Counties. Dime size hail was reported in Burlington. Urban street flooding occurred in Waltham and Somerville. Two people had to be rescued from their car by boat after water filled a tunnel in Somerville. Half-inch hail fell in Everett, also in southeast Middlesex County. Trees were downed in Newburyport in Essex County. Lightning struck several structures in Chelsea and Revere in Suffolk County, but damage was minimal									
Bristol County									
Westport	06	1315EST	0.1	25	0	0			Tornado (F0)
Photos and eyewitness reports confirmed that a very weak tornado touched down in the Drift Road section of Westport. A few tree tops were broken off.									
Dukes County									
Tisbury	06	1415EST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
Dime size hail was reported on Martha's Vineyard in the town of Tisbury.									



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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Worcester County

Oakham	09	1255EST			0	4		Lightning
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Norfolk County

Wrentham	09	1410EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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Middlesex County

Concord	09	1436EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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One or more lightning bolts struck four people at the Pine Acres Family Camping Resort in Oakham. None was seriously injured, but a couple did receive second degree burns when lightning struck while they were in contact with telephones or electrical equipment. One person who was struck was standing under an awning. All were treated and released. Later that afternoon, thunderstorms dropped dime size hail in Wrentham in Norfolk County and in Concord in Middlesex County.

Franklin County

Northfield	16	1900EST 1915EST			0	0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind (G75)
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Worcester County

Athol	16	1935EST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
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A severe thunderstorm caused wind damage in Franklin County in Northfield. A National Weather Service survey indicated that a microburst occurred in Northfield with an estimated thunderstorm wind gust of 80 to 90 mph. All trees fell in a single direction toward the northeast. The path of the damage was about one half-mile in length and occurred on Pine Meadow Road off of Route 63. A tree fell onto a house and narrowly missed a baby sleeping in a crib. Poles and wires were downed and Route 2 was closed. A cornfield was damaged and a farm stand toppled. In Worcester County, trees were reported blown down in Athol

Plymouth County

Plymouth	20	1227EST	0.1	5	0	0		Tornado (F0)
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Barnstable County

Bourne	20	1230EST			0	0		Funnel Cloud
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Barnstable County

4 NE Bourne Cape Cod Bay	20	1230EST			0	0		Waterspout
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Plymouth County

Plymouth	20	1245EST 1400EST			0	0		Funnel Cloud
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Southeast portions of Town of Plymouth.

Plymouth County

1 E Plymouth 1 mile east of Gurnet Light	20	1315EST			0	0		Waterspout
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Bristol County

Fall River	20	1415EST			0	0		Funnel Cloud
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Barnstable County

4 W Bourne Buzzards Bay	20	1420EST			0	0		Waterspout
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Plymouth County

Hanson	20	1430EST			0	0		Funnel Cloud
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Plymouth County

Hingham	20	1430EST			0	0		Funnel Cloud
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Showers developed during the afternoon in southeastern Massachusetts and these went on to produce three waterspouts, at least one confirmed weak tornado (F0) and numerous funnel clouds.. The weak tornado occurred in the Pine Hills section of the town of Plymouth, near Cliff Rock, where a police officer saw tree-top debris being carried upward into the funnel. The touchdown time



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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

was 1:27 PM and was reported to have lasted between 15 and 55 seconds. The first waterspout occurred just east of the Sagamore Bridge, over Cape Cod Bay, at 1:30 PM. At 2:15 PM, a second waterspout was sighted one mile east of Gurnet Light to the east of Plymouth. A third waterspout was reported just west of Bourne, over Buzzards Bay, at 3:20 PM. Throughout the afternoon, there were numerous reports of funnel clouds, some of which appeared in newspaper photos and documented via amateur radio operators' videos. Many of the funnels came as far as half-way down before retreating up into the cloud. While it is possible that there were other very brief touchdowns of very thin funnels, none were able to be confirmed. The waterspouts made for dramatic video footage which aired on area television newscasts and on The Weather Channel. Cloud tops associated with the convection that produced these phenomena were in the low range...from 10,000 to 20,000 feet, except for a few isolated clouds which grew slightly higher. There were no reports of damage or injury as a result of these events.

Dukes County Countywide

21	0300EST 1500EST			0	0		Heavy Rain
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MAZ007-013>024

Eastern Essex - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth - Southern Bristol - Southern Plymouth - Barnstable - Dukes - Nantucket

21	0700EST 1600EST			0	0	0.99K	Strong Winds
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A "southeaster" brought strong east to southeast winds to coastal eastern Massachusetts with wind gusts to 40 to 55 mph. Tree limbs and a few trees were reported blown down, especially over Cape Cod and the Islands and across south coastal towns in Plymouth and Bristol County. In New Bedford, a tree fell on a house and car. In Dartmouth, a staging was toppled at the University of Massachusetts. At least five boats washed ashore and countless others lost rudders at Mattapoisett Harbor. The town wharf was under about six inches of water at high tide. The harbor master rated this storm as one of the top five bad storms during recent years. Minor coastal flooding was reported at many points along south facing coastlines of southeastern Massachusetts, with tides one to two feet above normal. The strong winds in the Boston area reached sustained speeds of 30 mph at Deer Island in Boston Harbor. A peak gust to 51 mph was recorded from the east-southeast at the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton at 11:08 AM. Heavy rain accompanied the winds. Very heavy rain fell on Martha's Vineyard where the storm total was 3.8 inches. This was the same storm system that hit Atlantic City, NJ with a deluge of around 14 inches of rainfall.

Norfolk County Weymouth

22	1430EST			0	0		Heavy Rain
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Plymouth County Hingham

22	1430EST			0	0		Heavy Rain
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Norfolk County Weymouth

22	1434EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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Plymouth County Hanson to Pembroke

22	1520EST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
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Suffolk County West Roxbury

22	1715EST			0	0		Hail(0.75)
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A thunderstorm produced a downpour of rain in Hingham which totaled 1.25 inches in about 40 minutes. Streets were flooded by sudden heavy rain in the neighboring town of Weymouth. A SKYWARN observer reported penny size hail in Weymouth. Later in the afternoon, large branches were reported down and twenty small trees were bent over in a wooded area of Pembroke. Various size limbs were downed in Hanson. Another thunderstorm dropped penny size hail in West Roxbury.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

NONE REPORTED.



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RHODE ISLAND

Newport County
Little Compton **06** **1315EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

Providence County
Burrillville **06** **1610EST** **0** **0** **Hail(0.75)**

Providence County
North Smithfield **06** **1615EST** **0** **0** **Hail(1.50)**

Providence County
Woonsocket **06** **1632EST** **0** **0** **Hail(0.75)**

A funnel cloud was observed to the northeast when viewed by eyewitnesses in Little Compton in Newport County. There were isolated reports of severe weather in Providence County during the late afternoon. Dime size hail was reported in Burrillville and Woonsocket and ping-pong ball size hail fell in North Smithfield

Kent County
Warwick **20** **1335EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

Providence County
Pawtucket **20** **1350EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

Providence County
North Smithfield **20** **1450EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

Providence County
Woonsocket **20** **1530EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

There were numerous reports of funnel clouds across northern Rhode Island, as well as southeastern Massachusetts during the afternoon of the 20th. There was a confirmation of an extremely brief tornado touchdown in Plymouth, MA that afternoon, however a report of a very weak tornado at North Central Airport in North Smithfield, RI were not able to be confirmed. Cloud tops associated with the convection that produced this phenomena were in the low range from 10,000 to 20,000 feet except for isolated slightly higher tops. There were no reports of damage or injury.

RIZ002>007 **Southeast Providence - Western Kent - Eastern Kent - Bristol - Washington - Newport**
21 **0700EST** **0** **0** **Strong Winds**
 1700EST

RIZ007 **Newport**
21 **0800EST** **0** **0** **10K** **High Wind (G54)**
 1500EST

A "southeaster" brought high winds to parts of Newport County where a peak gust to 63 mph was reported at Jamestown. High wind gusts close to 60 mph also were reported from Charlestown and Middletown. A peak wind gust to 55 mph was reported in Newport. Strong southeast winds with gusts to 40 to 55 mph affected all of south coastal Rhode Island. Scattered power outages were reported throughout the area with a total of 3,300 electric customers affected. In Jamestown and Charlestown, where wind gusts reached close to 60 mph, boats were reported sunk and others broke loose from their moorings. Many tree limbs and a few trees were reported blown down. Sixteen foot waves were reported between Block Island and the mainland. The effects of strong winds were felt inland as far north as the Providence area where a few trees and tree limbs were reported blown down, causing isolated power outages. Up to two inches of rain fell with this storm.

Newport County
Newport **29** **1215EST** **0** **0** **Funnel Cloud**

Newport County
Countywide **29** **1300EST**
 1600EST **0** **0** **Heavy Rain**



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

RHODE ISLAND

Washington County

Countywide	29	1300EST 1600EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Washington County

Charlestown	29	1415EST			0	0			Flash Flood
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Newport County

Middletown	29	1430EST			0	0			Flash Flood
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A developing ocean storm passing several hundred miles southeast of Cape Cod caused a cold front to move very slowly across Connecticut and Rhode Island. A redeveloping area of showers and thunderstorms produced intense rainfall amounts of three to nearly five and one-half inches in one to three hours in parts of Washington and Newport Counties in coastal Rhode Island. A flash flood occurred in Charlestown where police reported extensive flooding along a portion of Route 1. In Middletown, Bailey Brook rose out of its banks and flooded a section of Forest Avenue. In Newport, the rainfall total was 3.73 inches and 2.29 inches of rain fell in one hour. A total of 5.40 inches of rain was reported in Little Compton. A funnel cloud was photographed over Newport early in the morning. It did not touch down and no damage was reported.