

# Significant Flooding Expected

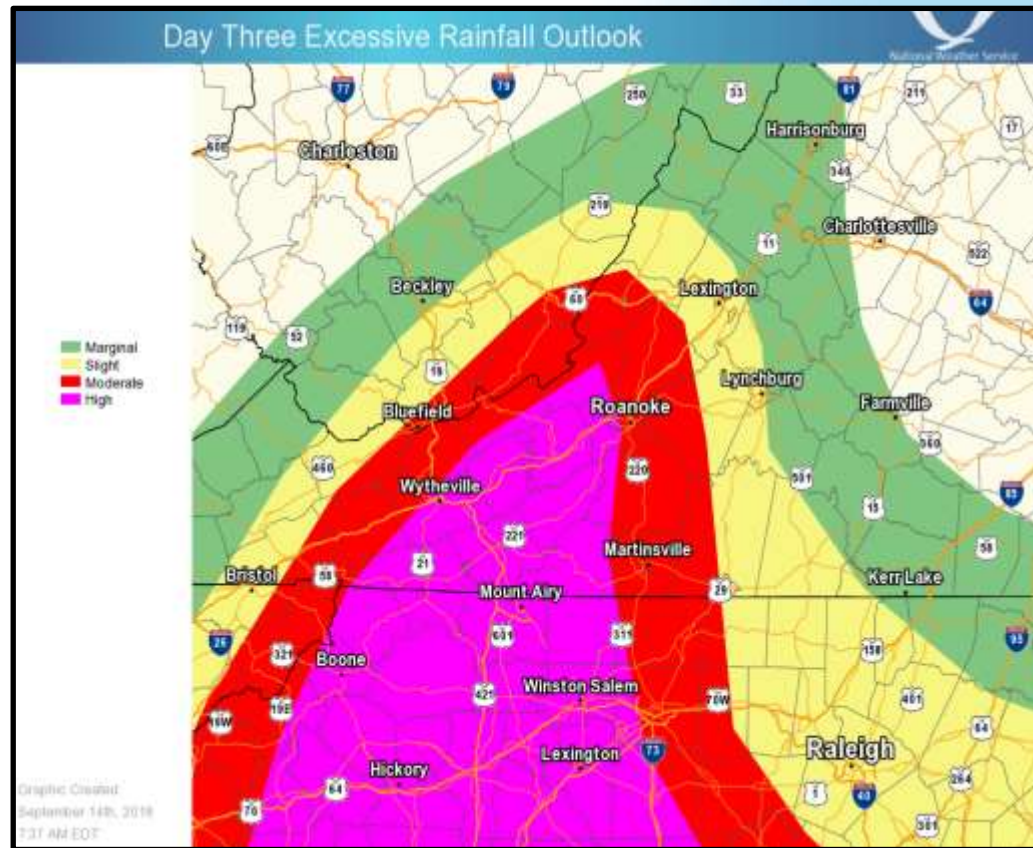
## Decision Support Briefing #5

As of: 9:00 AM September 14, 2018







### What Has Changed?

- ✓ Flash Flood Watch now in effect for part of area, will be expanded later today



# Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Flash Flooding</b> 	<p>Flash flooding will cause road closures. Creeks may come out of their banks and impact property.</p>	<p>Entire Region</p>	<p>Starting in NW NC Saturday, but Sunday into Monday for entire region</p>
<b>Flooding</b> 	<p>Widespread river flooding expected. Significant impact on life and property. Many roads will be closed.</p>	<p>Entire Region</p>	<p>Late Sunday into early next week</p>
<b>Damaging Winds</b> 	<p>Gusty winds may result in localized downed trees and power outages.</p>	<p>North Carolina Piedmont Mountain Ridges</p>	<p>Today and Saturday Mainly Sunday</p>
<b>Tornadoes</b> 	<p>Isolated brief tornadoes possible, with damage to structures, trees, and power lines.</p>	<p>Mainly Piedmont, but possible other locations</p>	<p>Sunday and Monday</p>

# Summary of Greatest Impacts



## Flash Flooding: Northwest North Carolina



## Flooding: Entire Region



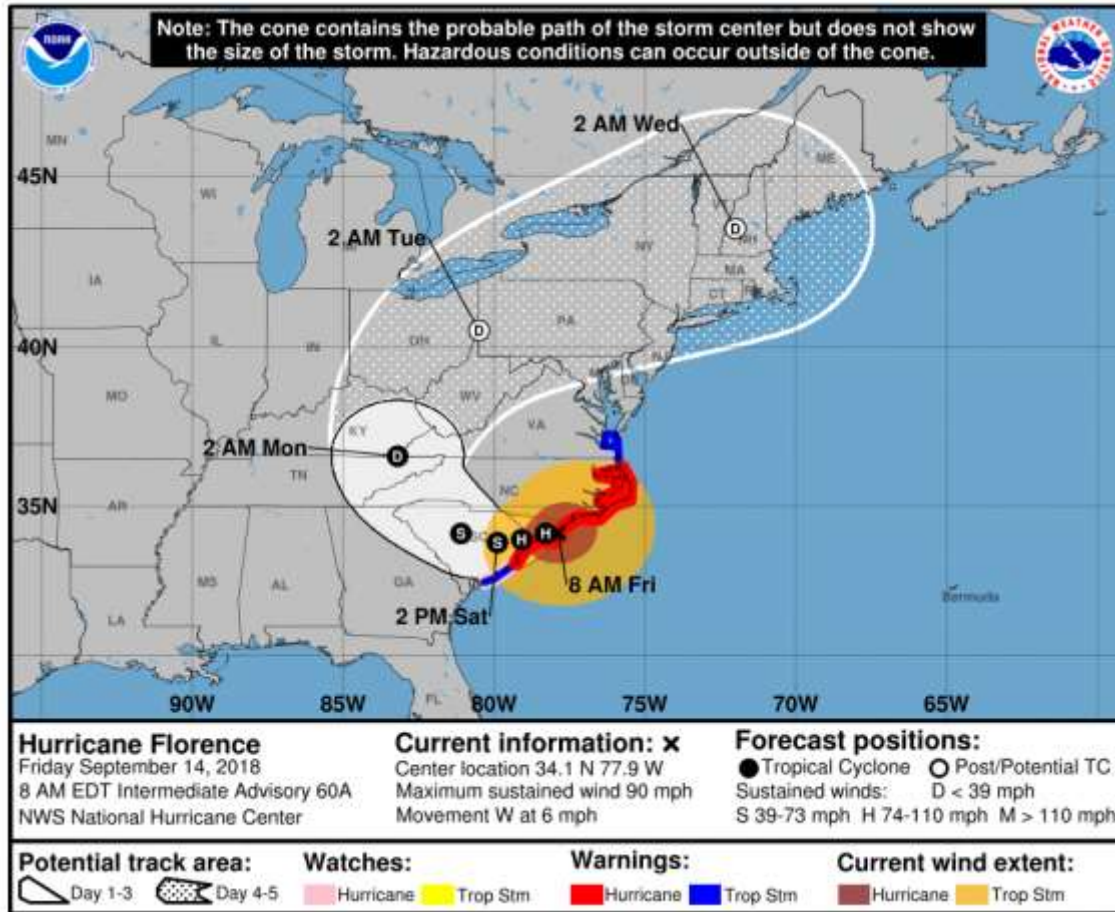
## Damaging Winds: North Carolina Piedmont



## Tornadoes: Piedmont



# Florence Track Forecast



## Florence to bring significant flooding to region:

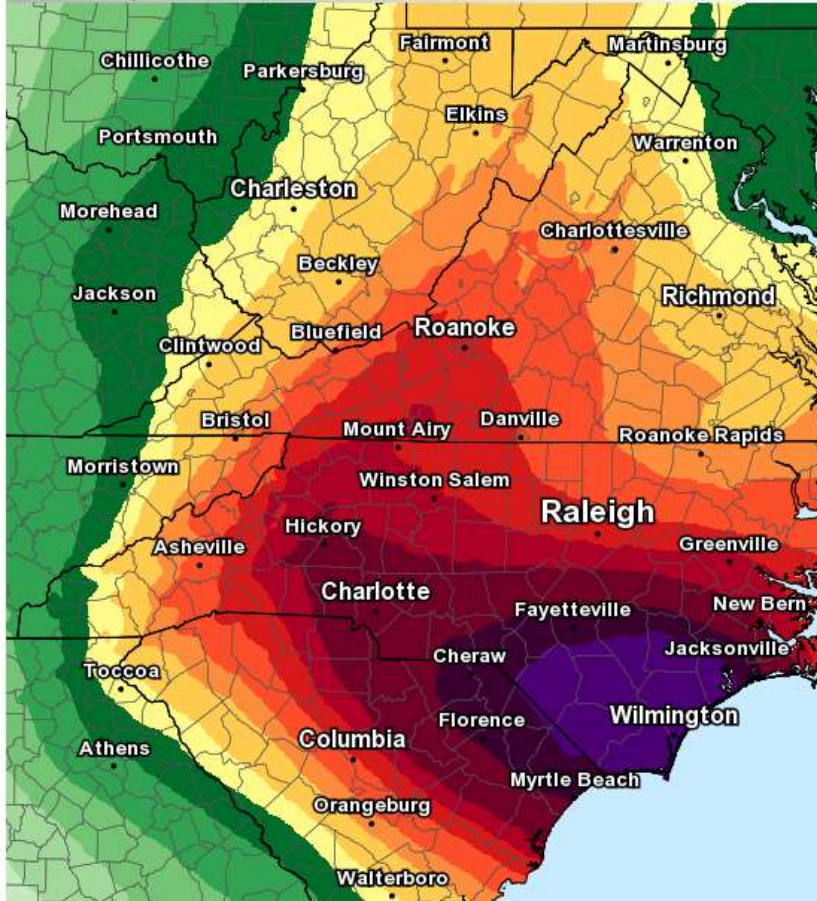
- ✓ Hurricane Florence slowly weakens and drifts southwest, then turns northwest on Sunday
- ✓ The track through southern Appalachians is favorable for extreme rainfall across the NWS Blacksburg forecast area

# Total Rainfall Forecast through Tuesday

## Forecast Precipitation

National Weather Service

Valid Ending Wednesday September 19th, 2018 at 8 AM EDT



Graphic Created  
September 14th, 2018  
8:21 AM EDT

### Extreme rainfall expected in southern Appalachians:

- ✓ Rainfall across the region could vary from 5 to as much as 15 inches, with the highest amounts near the Blue Ridge of NW NC
- ✓ Heavy rain to begin in parts of NC as early as late Saturday, with the heaviest for the entire region Sunday lasting into Monday

## Flood Threats

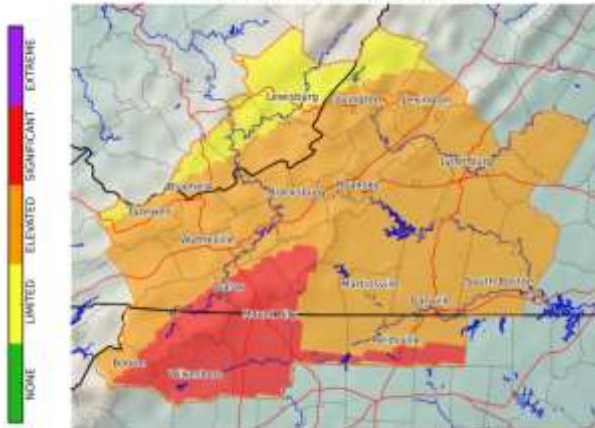
Saturday

### Flash Flooding and River Flooding significant to extreme:

- ✓ Flash flooding could be extreme in many parts of the region especially Sunday
- ✓ Landslides may be widespread, particularly in the extreme threat region
- ✓ Major river flooding likely, especially the southern portion of the region

Flooding Risk

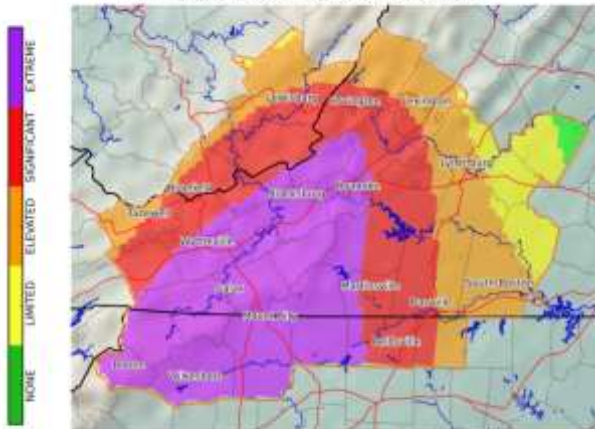
Valid: 09/15/2018 08:00 AM - 09/16/2018 08:00 AM EDT



National Weather Service  
Blacksburg, VA  
09/14/2018 04:38 AM EDT  
Follow Us: [f](#) [t](#) [v](#)  
weather.gov/rnk

Flooding Risk

Valid: 09/16/2018 08:00 AM - 09/17/2018 08:00 AM EDT

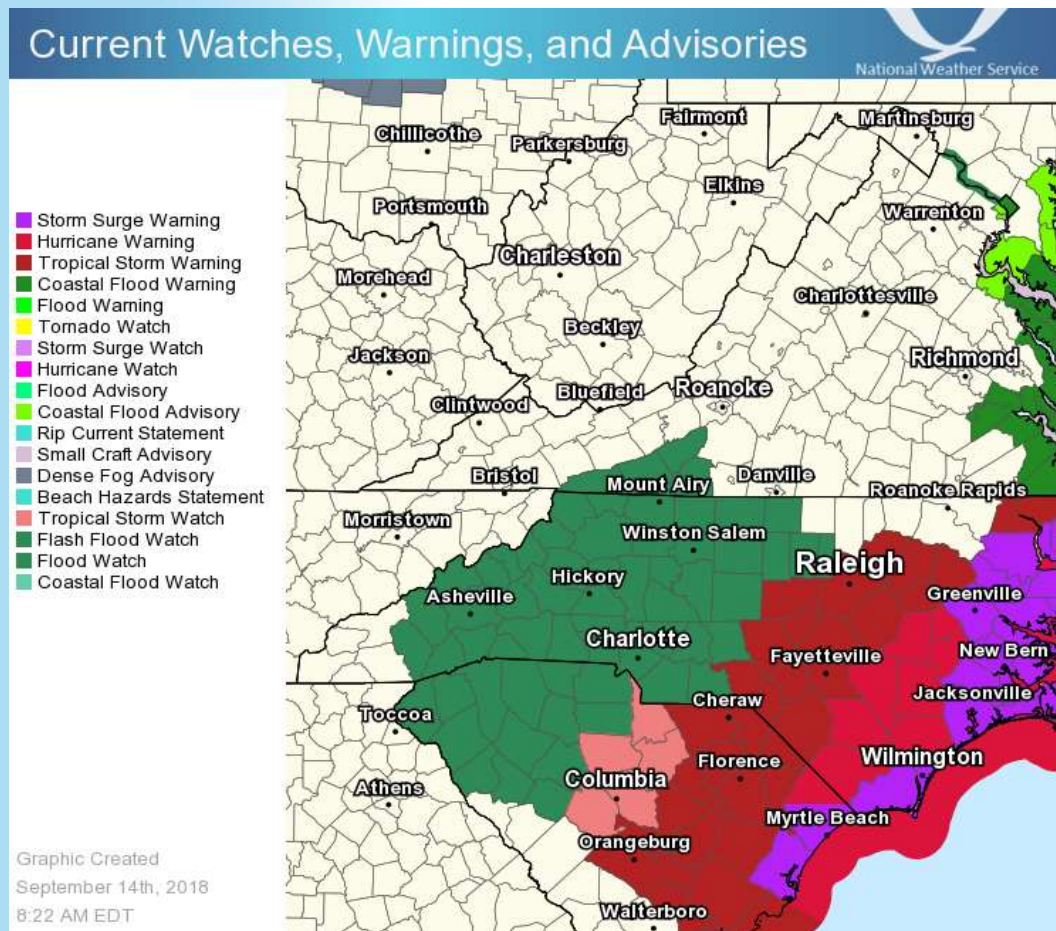


National Weather Service  
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Sunday

Flooding Legend		Flooding Safety Tips
Risk Level	Definition	
None	No Flooding risk.	
Limited	Risk of <u>localized</u> flash flooding of small streams and low water crossings, and <u>minor</u> flooding of poor drainage or urban areas. Be aware of flood prone areas and potential to change your driving course if roadways flood.	
Elevated	Risk of flash flooding of several low water crossings, roads, and small streams, or <b>Minor River Flooding.</b> Be prepared to move away from flood prone areas. If you observe flooded roadways, be prepared to change your driving course.	
Significant	Risk of flash flooding of <u>numerous</u> roads, low water crossings, and small streams, or <b>Moderate river flooding.</b> Plan to move away from flood prone areas. If you observe flooded roadways, change your driving course or stay off roads completely.	
Extreme	Risk of <u>widespread</u> flash flooding of low water crossings, roads, and small streams, or <b>Major river flooding.</b> Plan to move away from flood prone areas. If you observe flooded roadways, change your driving course or stay off roads completely.	

# Current Watches and Warnings



## Headlines as of 8am:

- ✓ Flash Flood Watch in effect from Saturday through Monday
- ✓ Flash Flood Watch will be expanded later today
- ✓ Tropical Storm Warnings likely to remain to the southeast of our area



# Key Messages



**Life-threatening, catastrophic flash flooding and prolonged significant river flooding are likely over much of the region this weekend into next week**

- ✓ **The heaviest rainfall may not begin until late Saturday or even Sunday for parts of the area, and may last through Monday. Rainfall totals Sat-Mon could range from 5 to 15 inches (with locally even higher amounts near the Blue Ridge of NC).**
- ✓ **Impacts are likely to include major river flooding and landslides. River flooding could last well into the week. This could lead to numerous road closures, road/bridge washouts, some communities cut off, and some structures near streams and rivers inundated.**
- ✓ **Wind gusts of 25 to 40 mph in the southern Piedmont today and tomorrow, as well as the higher mountain ridges Sunday could cause downed trees and scattered power outages.**
- ✓ **There is a small threat for isolated tornadoes by Sunday or Monday, but confidence is low at this time.**
- ✓ **Preparation efforts for high end flooding should be completed today, and all interests should continue to frequently monitor updates.**



# Contact Resources

Share your reports of storm damage, hail and/or flooding with our office by using one of the methods listed below, or by submitting an online report through the '**submit a storm report**' icon at the bottom of our web site:

Telephone: [1-540-552-0084](tel:1-540-552-0084)

E-mail: [rnk.skywarn@noaa.gov](mailto:rnk.skywarn@noaa.gov)

Facebook: [www.fb.com/NWSBlacksburg](http://www.fb.com/NWSBlacksburg)

Twitter: [@NWSBlacksburg](https://twitter.com/NWSBlacksburg)

NWS Blacksburg web page: [www.weather.gov/rnk](http://www.weather.gov/rnk) or [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov)

To subscribe to automated alerts, go to: [www.weather.gov/subscribe](http://www.weather.gov/subscribe)

In addition, please monitor these other web sites for the latest updates on the forecast:

National Hurricane Center: [www.hpc.noaa.gov](http://www.hpc.noaa.gov)

Weather Prediction Center: [www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

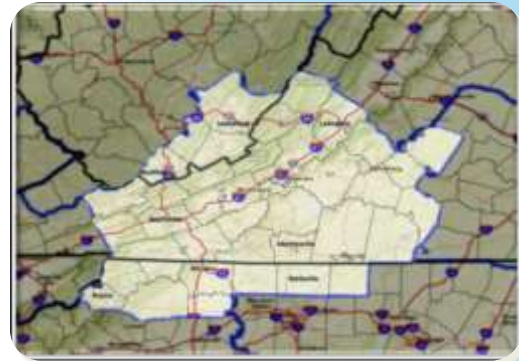
River Information: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=rnk>



# Contact and Next Briefing Information



**Next Briefing**  
**When:** *Around 10 AM Tomorrow (Sat)*  
**Method:** *Email*



**Web:**  
<http://www.weather.gov/rnk>



**Phone (public):**  
(540) 552-0084



**E-mail:**  
[rnk.skywarn@noaa.gov](mailto:rnk.skywarn@noaa.gov)



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[NWS RNK](https://www.youtube.com/NWSRNK)

**Disclaimer:** *The information contained within this briefing is time-sensitive, do not use after 7 PM Friday (09/14/18).*