

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

JULY 1979

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS				ESTIMATED DAMAGE	CHARACTER OF STORM	
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS			
ILLINOIS (continued)											
Rock Island County and Mercer County	30	5:31am			0	0	4	?		Windstorm	
										Strong winds snarled power and telephone lines, downed trees, scrambled traffic signals, tore at roofs, broke plate glass windows and trampled corn fields. Peak winds of 53 knots were observed at Quad City Airport in Moline.	
Southeastern Urbana, Champaign County	30	About 7pm			0	0	0	?		Hailstorm	
										Hailstones 1 inch in diameter were observed during a thunderstorm. Crop damage was unknown, but soybean losses in Champaign County may have been extensive.	
Champaign and Urbana, Champaign County	30	Afternoon and Evening			0	0	5	?		Flash Flooding	
										A total of between 3 and 5 inches of rain hit the Champaign-Urbana area between about 4:15pm and 8:30pm, as a series of thunderstorms moved through Champaign County. Resultant flash flooding caused an estimated \$250,000 damage at the Colwell Publishing Company on Kenyon Road in Champaign.	
Decatur, Macon County	31	11:02am			0	0	?	0		Windstorm	
										Gusts as high as 52 knots hit Decatur during a thunderstorm. The storm knocked out electrical power, flooded streets and subways and featured numerous lightning strikes.	
INDIANA											
NE of Linden Montgomery Co	4	2 AM			0	0	5	0		Wind	
										Strong winds toppled a leg of a grain elevator causing the elevator to collapse. The elevator was rendered inoperable. Damage was estimated at \$50,000.	
Throntown Boone County	4	2:15 AM			0	0	4	0		Lightning	
										A barn near Throntown was destroyed by fire after taking a direct hit by a bolt of lightning. The loss was estimated at \$40,000, including contents.	
Goodland Newton County	8	5:30 PM 7:30 PM			0	0	?	?		Heavy Rain	
										Heavy rains, unofficially estimated at over 7 inches fell in less than 2 hours. The runoff of the rains washed away 3 bridges. As much as 4 feet of water flooded some basements. No injuries. Damage estimate unknown.	
Morgan County	13	9:50 AM			0	0	4	?		Flash Flood	
										Structural damage on Bryant Creek Dam at 500S and 600W in southwest Morgan County. State Road 39 South of Mondavia was under water. Downed power lines disrupted power to downtown Martinsville.	
										Half a dozen boats went over spillway and about nine additional boats were sunk in a lake.	
										Flash flooding on Butler and Goss Creeks at Whitaker produced the highest flood in 60 years, according to a long-time resident.	
Owen County	13	8:00 AM 10:00 AM			0	0	3	?		Flash Flood	
										Seventy feet section of the Amazon Lake Dam breached to a depth of three feet. Local roads and some trees washed out west and north of Spencer. State Roads 43 and 48 west of Whitehall under water.	
Vigo County	13	6:05 PM			0	0	0	0		Funnel Cloud	
										An unconfirmed funnel cloud was observed at Junction of Hwy 41 and I-70 at Terre Haute.	
Henry and Randolph Cos.	13	4:30 PM 7:00 PM			0	0	?	0		Flash Flood	
										Water was over State Roads 35 & 36, SR 32 west and east of Winchester, and SR 1 near Georgetown in Randolph Co. Also a couple of houses were surrounded by water. Water was standing on many roads in Henry County.	
INDIANA (continued)											
Monroe and Brown Cos.	13	11:00AM Noon			1	0	?	0		Flash Flood	
										State Road 46 west of Bloomington and State Road 135 north of Nashville were flooded. The small town of Nashville was almost isolated. Power line poles were washed away.	
										In Monroe County an 11 year old boy was crushed to death in a tent at a Boy Scout Camp by a 50 foot oak tree when heavy rain loosened the tree roots.	
										In Brown County, Bean Blossom Creek flooded, forcing evacuation of 30 homes in the Treylar area. Some people removed by boats. Also, an earthen dam holding 8 acres of water broke.	
Johnson County	13	Noon			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
										Water was over roads with bridges under water. A large tree fell in Greenwood near US 31 due to wet ground. Some power outages occurred. State Road 252 east of Edinburg was closed due to high water.	
Sullivan and Vigo Counties	13	6:20PM			0	0	0	0		High winds	
										Winds estimated at 65 MPH reported near the Sullivan/Vigo County line.	
Delaware County	13	3:00 PM			0	0	?	0		Flash Flood	
										Flooding reported in Muncie.	
Hendricks Co.	13	Morning			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
										U. S. 36 east of Danville, U. S. 40 at Stilesville flooded and State Road 267 between Avon and Plainfield was flooded.	
Marion County	13	9:00 AM 3:00 PM			1	1	?	?		Flash Flood	
										Numerous streets and basements were flooded. 600 residents lost power when a tree fell on power lines. A ten year old riding on an inner tube in a drainage ditch drowned. A 3 year old child was swept into a storm drain, but was rescued.	
Posey County	13	Evening			0	0	2	?		High Winds	
										Downed trees.	
Warrick County	13	8:32PM			0	0	0	0		Funnel Cloud	
										An unconfirmed funnel cloud was sighted north of Bonville.	
Posey County	13	8:45PM			0	0	0	0		Funnel Cloud	
										A funnel cloud was sighted 3 miles south west of Mount Vernon.	
East of Cicero in Hamilton Co.	24	6:08PM	?	?	0	0	0	?		Tornado	
										Two citizens reported a brief touchdown of a tornado in a cornfield near Victory Chapel Road and County Road 216 in north east Hamilton Co. Report confirmed by Sheriff. Storm moved east-northeast. Funnel retreated into cloud. Would be classified as a mini-tornado.	
SW Marion Co.	24	2:15PM			0	3	0	0		Lightning	
										Lightning struck 3 golfers. One golfer was knocked unconscious and was revived by a police officer. Officer was credited with saving victims life because of fast action. Other 2 victims were not seriously injured.	
Richmond and Wayne Counties	24	5:00 PM			0	0	5	0		Wind	
										A felled tree damaged seven new cars. Three cars were totally damaged. Damages were estimated at \$23,000. Wind ripped off a portion of the roof at Howard Johnsons Lodge. Five guest rooms and contents were damaged. Damage estimate unknown.	

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INDIANA (continued)											
Tipton Tipton County	25	2:12PM	5	Narrow	0	0	4	0		Tornado	
A small tornado touched down about 1/4 mile west of the US 31 and Indiana Rt. 28 intersection. At 2:12PM, it destroyed a barn scattering pieces of lumber 200 ft. The tornado moved fast northeast and did minor damage to a gas station, blowing out 2 windows and some roof damage. The funnel cloud headed toward Tipton. There was minor damage in Tipton, with some small limbs down and some windows broken. The storm weakened over Tipton. No injuries were reported.											
Jasper, Dubois, Crawford, Orange, Peary, Spencer	26	Early			0	0	7	7		Flash Flood	
Heavy rain with totals up to 10 inches fell in southern Indiana. The peak flooding occurred between 8AM and 10AM. The band of heaviest rain was about 25 miles wide, centered on a line from Princeton to Salem.											
The hardest hit cities were English, Marengo and Milltown. The town of English suffered the greatest property damage, estimated at \$4 million to the downtown district. The Crawford Co. Sheriff estimated 66 homes, 13 mobile homes, 2 churches and 26 businesses were damaged extensively in English. In English the swift flowing water toppled parked cars and swept house trailers off their foundations. Floodwaters were 6 feet deep in many areas, and 10 feet deep elsewhere.											
The Red Cross estimated that as many as 200 homes in Marengo, 200 in Milltown, and 300 in English were under water. Some houses had only their roofs visible. The Business District of Marengo was also devastated. As many as 1,000 people had to be evacuated. Water rose six feet in thirty minutes at the height of the flood.											
In Milltown the water from the Big Blue River rose four feet in one hour. Only minor property damage occurred in Milltown, which is downstream on The Blue River.											
Many other small towns in Southern Indiana experienced flood problems. Among the towns effected were; Huntington, Jasper, DuBois, Paoli, Bullard, Ryana, and French Lick. Rainfalls in the general range of 4-7 inches occurred. Many counties were declared disaster areas by the President. There were no deaths or injuries. Considerable crop damage resulted.											
Princeton Knox County	26	Evening			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
Heavy rains totaling over 4 inches in 6 hours soaked the saturated soil of Princeton. A ten block area of south Princeton was evacuated as a wall of water 6 feet high hit one neighborhood. No injuries. Property damage unknown.											
Western Indianapolis Marion County	26	8:00 PM	Brief	Narrow	0	0	3	0		Tornado	
A mini-tornado briefly touched down in the Glen Trailer Court near the Indianapolis community of Clemont. Minor damage to some carpents were reported. An unconfirmed funnel cloud was sighted in a field near Speedway a short time later.											
Huntingburg DuBois County	26	9 PM			0	0	5	0		Lightning	
Lightning struck the First Baptist Church in Huntingburg around 9 PM. The resultant fire caused an estimated \$100,000 damage.											
Lightning also struck an antenna of a residence in Huntingburg on US 231 South. The shock of the blast blew the TV into the middle of the living room, blew out the windows and knocked down a wall in the basement. There was no fire and no injuries. Damage estimated near \$3,000.											
INDIANA (continued)											
Sullivan County	27	13:00 AM 10:00 AM			0	0	5	?		Heavy Rains	
Over 4 inches of rain deluged Sullivan County in the early morning hours. Heavy rains sunk several boats on Lake Sullivan. Some rural roads were under water with portions washed out. Several homes were damaged by water in low-lying areas of Shelburn. There were no injuries.											
At 8:30 AM the Sullivan County Sheriff reported Bubberoh Creek 2 miles east of Sullivan was out of its banks and rising. State Road 54 flooded and washed out west of Sullivan. State Road 154 west of Sullivan and SR 48 between Shelburn and Fairbanks closed due to high water.											
NE Monroe County	27	1:10 PM			0	0	0	0		Funnel Cloud	
Funnel cloud 4 miles north of SR 46 near Brown County line.											
Vermillion Co.	28	9 AM 2 PM			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
Heavy rains of over 5 inches fell on already saturated soil causing rapid rises of streams and creeks in Clinton. 50 families were evacuated as Feather Creek rose out of its banks. Property damage was mainly confined to basements. Many roads were under water. There were no injuries.											
Vigo, Parke, Putman, Clay Cos.	28	9 AM 2 PM			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
Heavy rains of over 4 inches caused rises in streams and creeks. Some basements were flooded. Many roads were closed by high water. Considerable agricultural area was under high water. No injuries. The El River and the Big Walnut Creek were out of their banks.											
Boone County	28	Noon 8 PM			0	0	?	?		Flash Flood	
Heavy rains caused a rapid rise in Eagle Creek. The creek was out of its banks and flooded farmland and parks in southern Boone County. No injuries.											
Muncie Delaware Co.	30	5:07 PM			0	0	?	?		Hail	
One inch diameter hail on the southwest side of Muncie.											
IOWA NO REPORT RECEIVED											
KANSAS Hamilton County	1	3 p					0	5		Hail	
Thunderstorms moving east-southeast through the county produced gusty winds and hail with some hail up to 2 inches in diameter causing crop damage in the east portion of the county.											
Wallace County	1	7 p					0	5		Hail, wind	
Hail and strong winds moving east through the county caused damage to about 2,600 acres of wheat and completely destroyed 1,300 acres.											
Harper County	1	7:30 p					5	3		Wind	
Heavy thunderstorms moving east across south central Kansas produced some hail, locally over 4 inches of rain, and strong gusty winds. Greatest wind damage was near Anthony where farm buildings, a hanger, and an airplane were all destroyed.											
Cheyenne County	3	3:10 p					6	5		Hail, heavy rain	
Heavy thunderstorms moving north were accompanied by hail locally up to 2 inches in diameter, high winds, and very heavy rains of 2 to 3 inches in less than an hour. Runoff from rain caused erosion of farmland and washed out some country roads.											
Logan County	3	4:30 p	2	35	0	0	4	0		Tornado	
A funnel cloud dipped down briefly at the south edge of Oakley and again in north portion of town. Damage was to Kansas Department of Transportation building, metal storage buildings, trees, and the city cemetery.											