

Significant Winter Storm & Bitter Cold Weather January 2nd – 4th, 2014

Prepared Noon EST – Tuesday December 31st, 2013

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Philadelphia/Mt. Holly NJ Forecast office

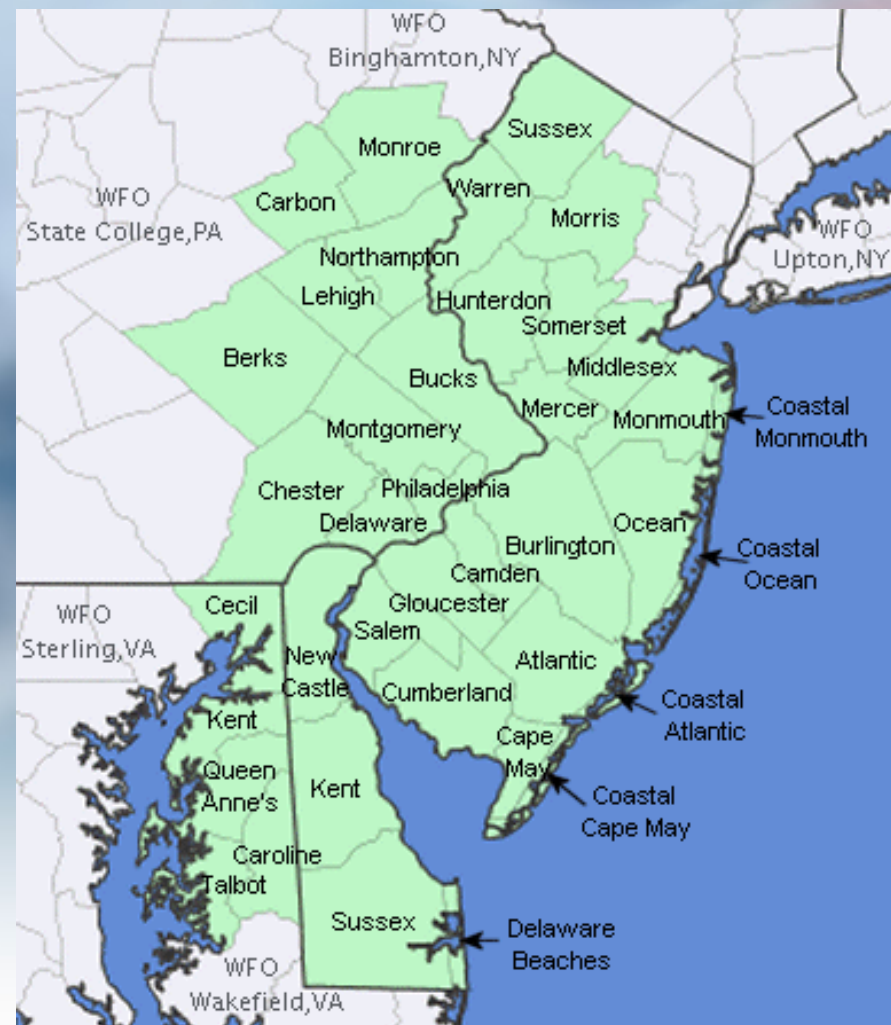
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>



**National Weather Service
Philadelphia/Mt. Holly**

Purpose of Briefing

- Briefing #1 for event
- Promote situational awareness for emergency management community & partners
- Provide guidance for planning efforts
- Briefing applies to Mount Holly service area – shaded in green on map

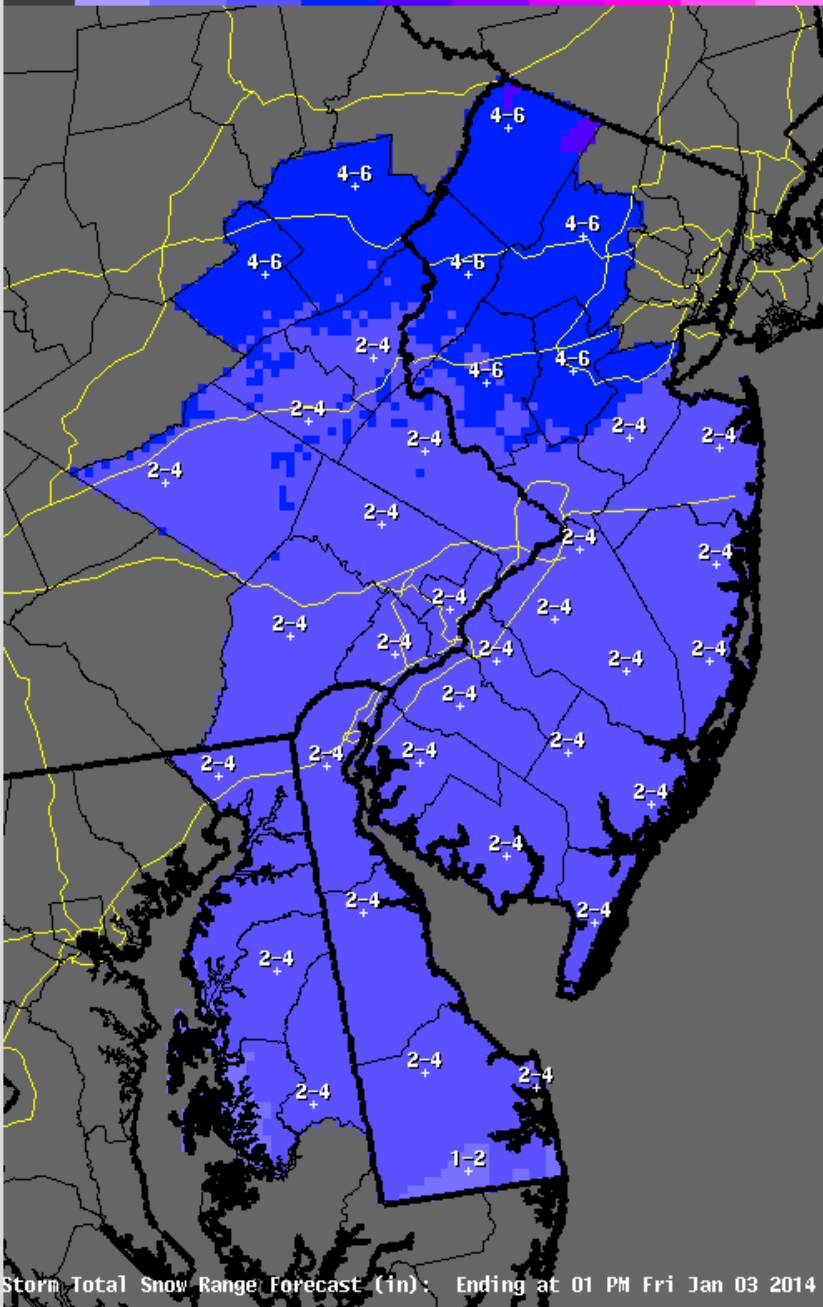


Executive Summary

- A coastal storm is expected to impact the region from Thursday, January 2nd into Friday, January 3rd. Bitter cold air will sweep into the region on Thursday night and continue through Friday, January 3rd, with near-record low temperatures expected Saturday morning, January 4th.
- The storm has the **potential to produce 4+ inches of snow**, with those higher amounts most likely in the Poconos & northern NJ. Strong northwest winds will develop on Friday, resulting in considerable blowing snow.
- Temperatures will drop rapidly Thursday night into Friday. **Subzero wind chills are likely late Thursday night into Friday north and west of the I-95 corridor with single digit wind chills elsewhere.** Low temperatures Saturday morning will be mainly in the single digits, with subzero temperatures in the Poconos & northern NJ.
- **Moderate coastal flooding** is possible with the Friday morning high tide along the Atlantic Coast, the Raritan Bay & Delaware Bay. The **highest risk of moderate coastal flooding is in the Raritan Bay, and the Atlantic Coasts of Monmouth & Ocean counties.** Very cold temperature will cause icing problems due to blowing spray along coastal sections. Roadways that flood due to the coastal flooding will ice over.
- The next briefing package will be issued by 400 PM Wednesday, January 1st.
- Monitor our website for updated information.

— <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>

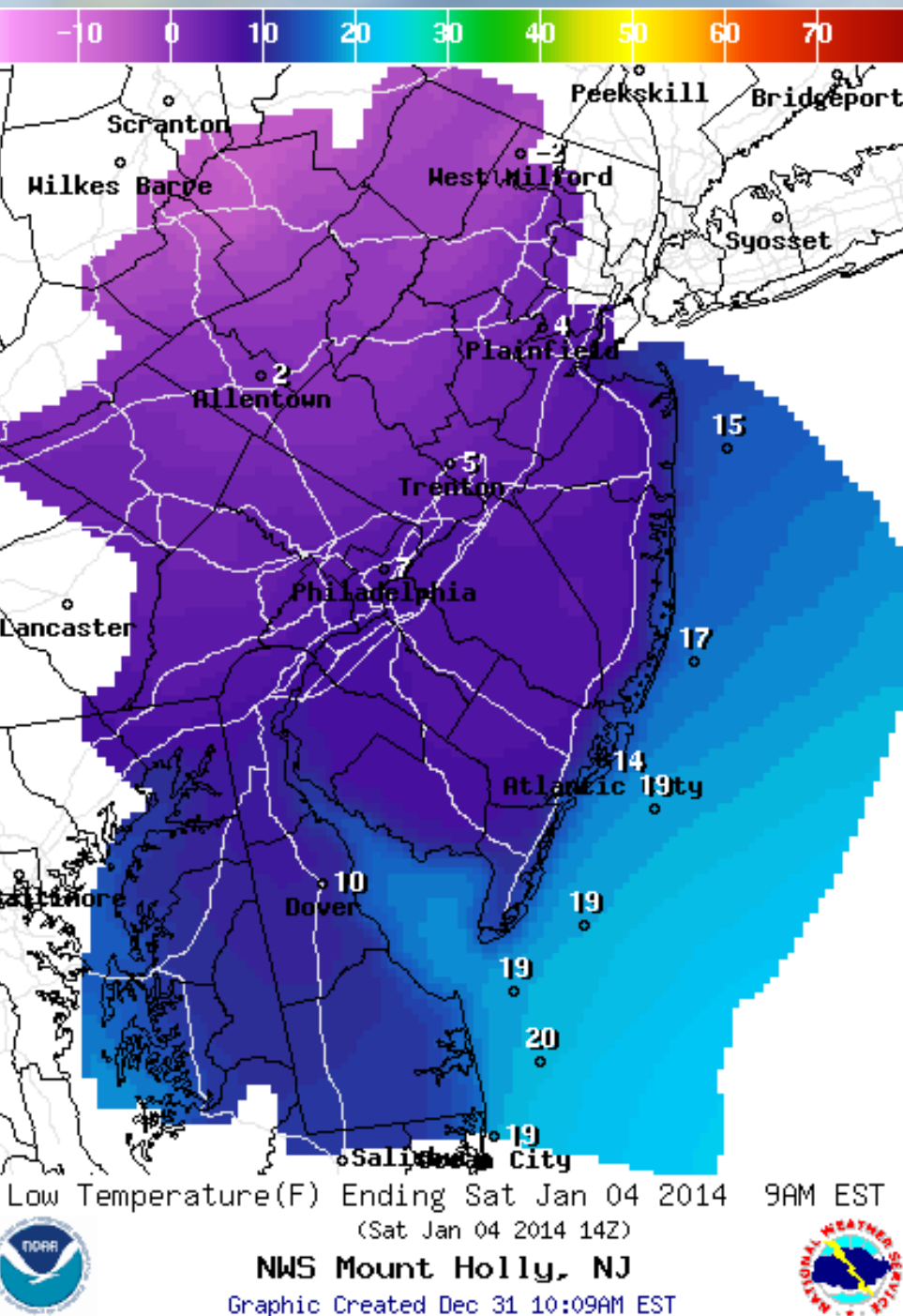




Storm Total Snow Range Forecast (in): Ending at 01 PM Fri Jan 03 2014

Snowfall forecast

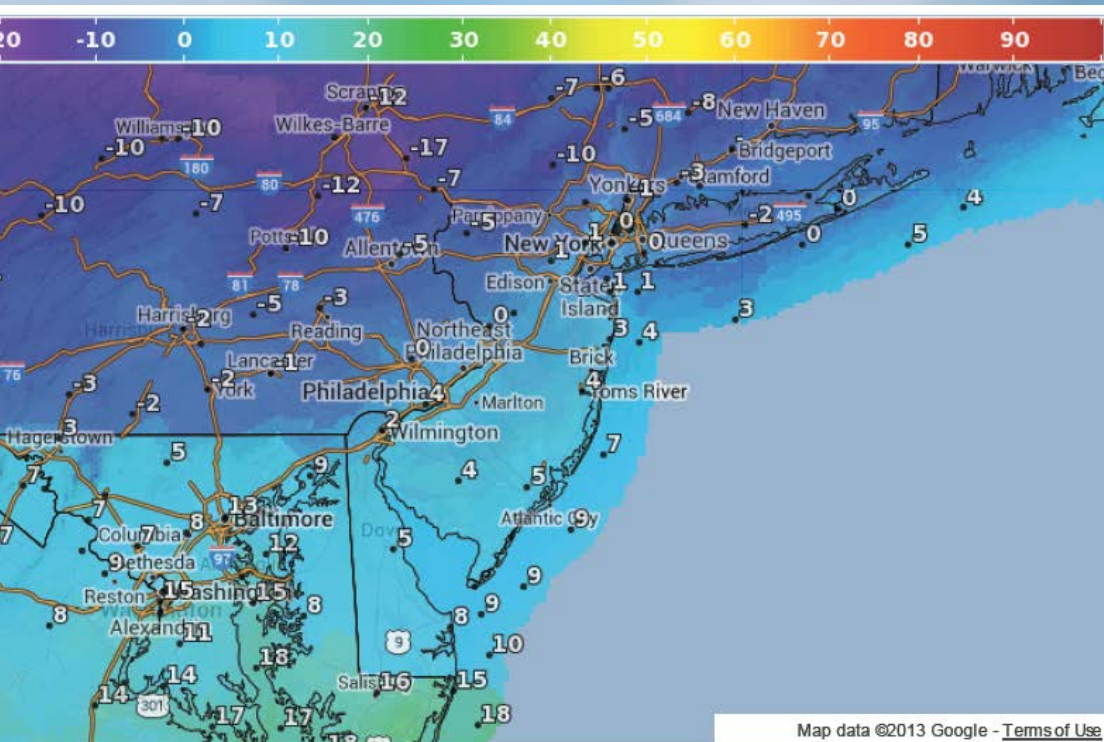
- Here's the snowfall forecast from NWS Mount Holly. Main snowfall threat timing is Thursday night.
- Heavier snowfall amounts as you go north.



Very cold temperatures

- Cold air will start pouring into the region Thursday night and continue through Friday.
- Near-record cold low temperatures are possible for Saturday morning.

Dangerously cold wind chills



Apparent Temperature(°F)

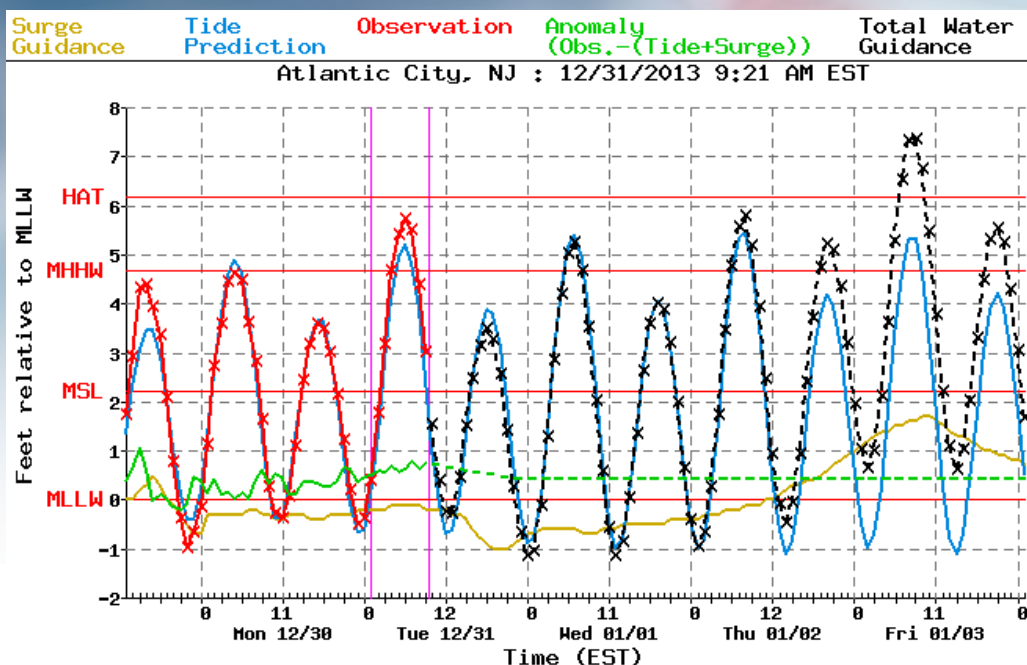
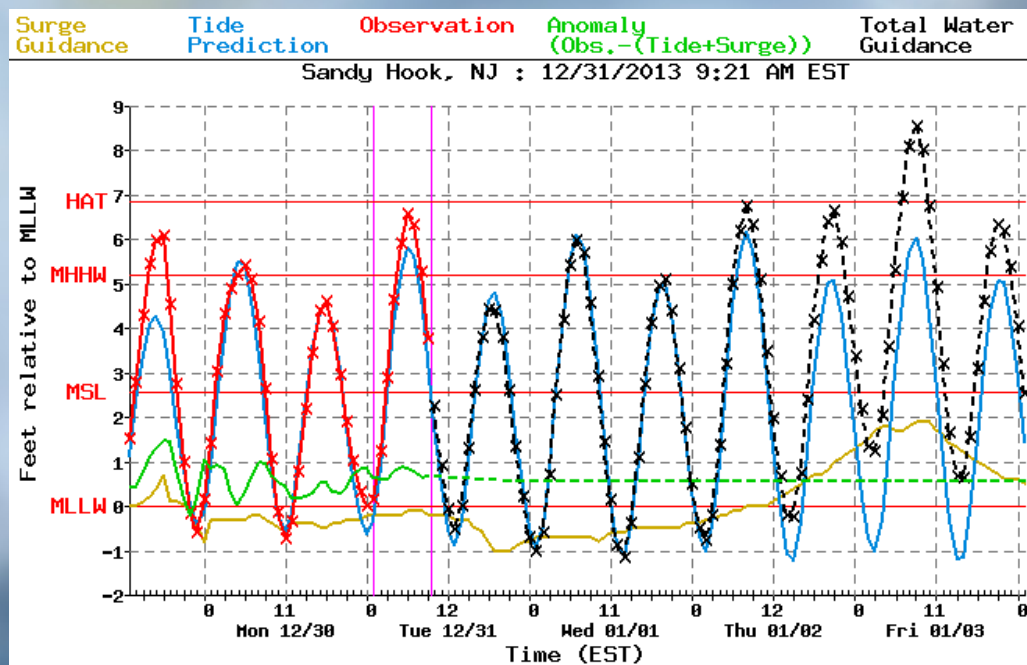
Valid at: Fri, 03 Jan 2014 12 UTC (Fri, Jan 3 2014, 7 AM EST)



- Graphic shows wind chill values at 700 AM Friday, with subzero values north & west of Philadelphia. Frostbite will be a significant threat for anyone outdoors starting late Thursday night and continuing through Friday into Friday night.

Coastal flooding

- Moderate coastal flooding is possible with the Friday morning high tide, along the Atlantic Coast, as well as the Raritan Bay & the Delaware Bay. Minor coastal flooding is very likely. Areas most likely to see moderate coastal flooding are the Raritan Bay & the Atlantic coasts of Monmouth & Ocean counties.



Combined impacts

- Please keep in mind ‘combined impacts’.
- Even snowfall amounts of only a couple inches can cause travel problems when winds are gusting over 30 mph on Friday, producing significant visibility restrictions in blowing snow. Snow will blow back onto roadways which have been plowed.
- Areas which flood from coastal flooding on Friday will ice over as the tide recedes with air temperatures in the teens & lower 20s.
- There will be a significant icing problem in coastal locations from blowing spray late Thursday night into Friday. There is the potential for significant ice accumulations.
- Roadway chemicals lose effectiveness as temperature get colder. Many locations will be in the teens on Friday as the snow ends.
- Water pipes may freeze & burst with the very cold temperatures expected at sunrise Saturday.

Questions?

- For the latest information, visit our website at:
 - <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi>
- Our latest briefing package is available from our website at:
- http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/briefing/packages/current_briefing.pdf
- If you wish to be notified when a briefing package is issued, you can follow us on social media where we post the notice.
- You can ‘friend’ us on Facebook at: US National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mount Holly
- You can follow us on Twitter @NWS_MountHolly
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