

Sandy blizzard in Garrett County MD a disaster after 33 inches of snow

- [EXTREME WEATHER](#)
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The strongest storm to hit the US on record was [Hurricane Sandy](#), turned [Superstorm](#). All of the attention has been on the coast, and rightly so. More than 12 hours before making landfall in New Jersey, Ocean City, MD lost its famous Fishing Pier at the Inlet. The destructive pictures up the coast through the Jersey Shore and New York City have been compelling. That is where most of the people impacted are located, the most densely populated region of our country. But it appears well inland, and somewhat isolated western [Maryland](#) on the [snow side of Sandy](#) was the hardest hit in our state.

Garrett County in western Maryland boasts to have the state's only ski resort, Wisp and mountains over 3,000 feet high surrounding Deep Creek Lake. That location also helps to bring close to 100 inches of snow every year, but that usually falls during the winter season. Superstorm Sandy's snow side had a bulls eye on this area. A heavy wet snow, combined with winds of 50-70 mph made for extreme [blizzard](#) conditions. It was a heavy wet snow, with temperatures just below freezing

combined with tropical moisture. Many have commented on the blue color to the snow, indicating a high water content. As of Thursday afternoon totaled 33 inches at the resort and Red House reported 29 inches. See Scott Spranklin's photos of his road trip to the snow along with other photos in the slide show.

[Snow from Sandy stands deep and led to disaster in Garrett County MD](#)



Superstorm Sandy dumps nearly 3 feet of heavy wet snow along with strong winds knocking power out to 15,000 people



Location: Deep Creek, MD

39.292804718018 ; -76.462432861328

While snow lovers perk up at the number and the photos, the combination of strong winds and the weight of the snow toppled trees everywhere. It is a true disaster. There are an estimated 80 percent of the counties roads are blocked by fallen trees.

Today Governor O'Malley toured the region. The Maryland National Guard has been deployed to help, along with the State Highway Administration. There was a surprise boost of support from a Mennonite community in nearby Grantsville. They have brought their trackers to help assist in clearing.

The locals are a hardy bunch, but this is a lot to deal with. Even communications have been threatened with power out and expected to remain out for some as many as three to four weeks. This afternoon Wisp Resort has their power back on and one power station was restored, but two substations and reconnecting all of the lines will be a tedious task.

Property Owners:

Garrett County Administrator Monty Pagenhardt was on WBAL radio today and said to be concerned. He had numerous trees down on his property and odds are that most homes have them as well. If fallen trees are not on a house itself, then they might be on the property.

The National Guard will be going door to door to try and contact the 15,000 people isolated without power. If you have family or friends who may need help, you can relay that message to County Officials at 1-888-756-7836

- [Hurricane Sandy wipes out Ocean City Fishing Pier.](#)
- [Hurricane Sandy and The Chesapeake Bay in Maryland](#)
- [Did Sandy's former eye pass through Maryland? Radar shows it over Baltimore](#)
- [The snow side of Sandy](#)
- [Hurricane Sandy floods the coast. One model shows snow wrapping in behind the storm](#)
- [Rumors of a perfect storm or a whole lot of nothing from TS Sandy](#)
- [Hurricane Sandy puts Maryland in State of Emergency. devastating impacts beyond](#)

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