

Monday noontime update including Brian McNoldy's Monday Tropical Update
At 12:47 PM I have a temp of 48.6 with a peak wind gust so far of 20 MPH
at 5:59 AM. I just hit 2.02" of rain from my VP2 gauge since midnight, with
more coming down. Pressure is down to 29.25" and falling rapidly.

No apparent damage so far, power still going but winds haven't really ramped
up here yet, predicted to do so later this afternoon. We just weathered our first
outer heavy rain band over the past few hours, peak rain rate a modest 0.79"
at 11:36 AM. Holding the course for now, bracing for the worst later on today
and tomorrow.

Subject:[Tropical Atlantic Update] Sandy's historic landfall expected tonight

Date:Mon, 29 Oct 2012 13:29:00 +0000

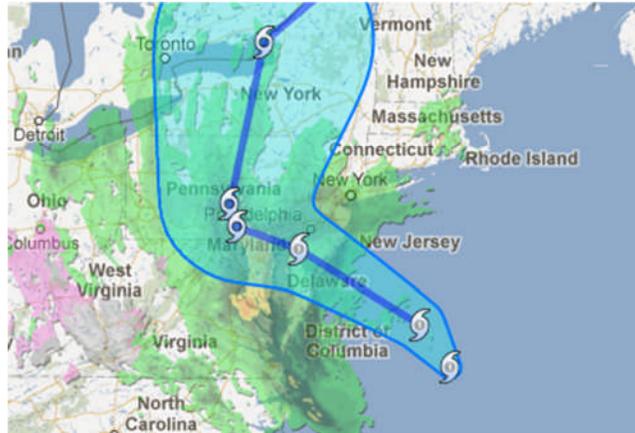
From:Brian McNoldy <brian.mcnoldy@gmail.com>

Hurricane Sandy continues to loom ominously off the U.S. east coast, bringing very heavy rain
and tropical storm to hurricane force winds to many millions of people well before the worst
arrives. The coastal flooding is already terrible, as expected (even as far south as Miami and Fort
Lauderdale!). Locations from North Carolina to Maine will continue to see incredible coastal
flooding/erosion, with the worst near and north of where the center crosses land (approximately
southern NJ into NYC, Long Island, CT, RI, and MA). Inland flooding will also be a large
problem in the coastal states as well as the inland states throughout the northeast. Finally, the 50-
90mph winds that many places will experience can easily damage roofs, break tree limbs, and
uproot trees, bringing power lines down with them.

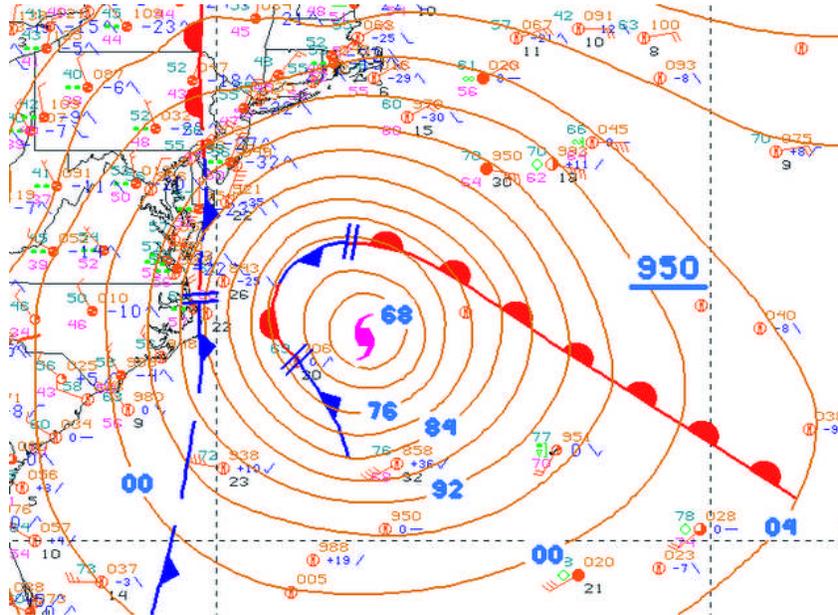


At 8am EDT today, Sandy was a Category 1 hurricane with 85mph sustained winds, and a
946mb central pressure (it's that very low pressure that creates the strong winds at the
surface). The wind field is so large that tropical storm force winds (45mph+) extend 485 miles
out from the center. The center is located approximately 300 miles south of NYC and 300 miles

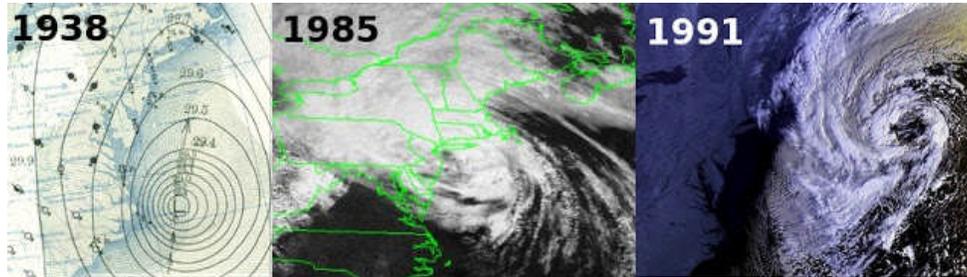
east of Norfolk... heading for a landfall late tonight near the Delaware Bay area. I have multiple long radar loops available at <http://andrew.rsmas.miami.edu/bmcnoldy/tropics/radar/>



Perhaps the trickiest part of this system from a warning perspective is that Sandy may not technically be a hurricane by the time it reaches the coastline later tonight. It is interacting with a cold front that is draped on the coastline and is losing some of its tropical characteristics. It actually has a warm front forming off to its east and a cold front to its south... a sign that it's transitioning to an extratropical cyclone.



This absolutely does not make it any less dangerous! It has been intensifying (by both tropical AND extratropical mechanisms), and this interaction with the mid-latitude front is exactly what has been forecast to occur for days now. With or without a hurricane or a hurricane warning, this storm is extraordinary, unprecedented, and must be taken very seriously. The storms it has been compared to are the 1938 Great New England Hurricane, Hurricane Gloria in 1985, and the "Perfect Storm" of 1991. Sandy will join this crowd, and likely surpass some (if not all) of them in total impacts and damage.



Posted By Brian McNoldy to [Tropical Atlantic Update](#) at 10/29/2012 09:29:00 AM