

Winter Storm Briefing

Decision Support Briefing #5

As of: 5:00 AM

Wednesday, January 03, 2018


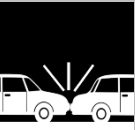

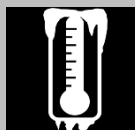



<http://www.weather.gov/akq/RainandSnow>

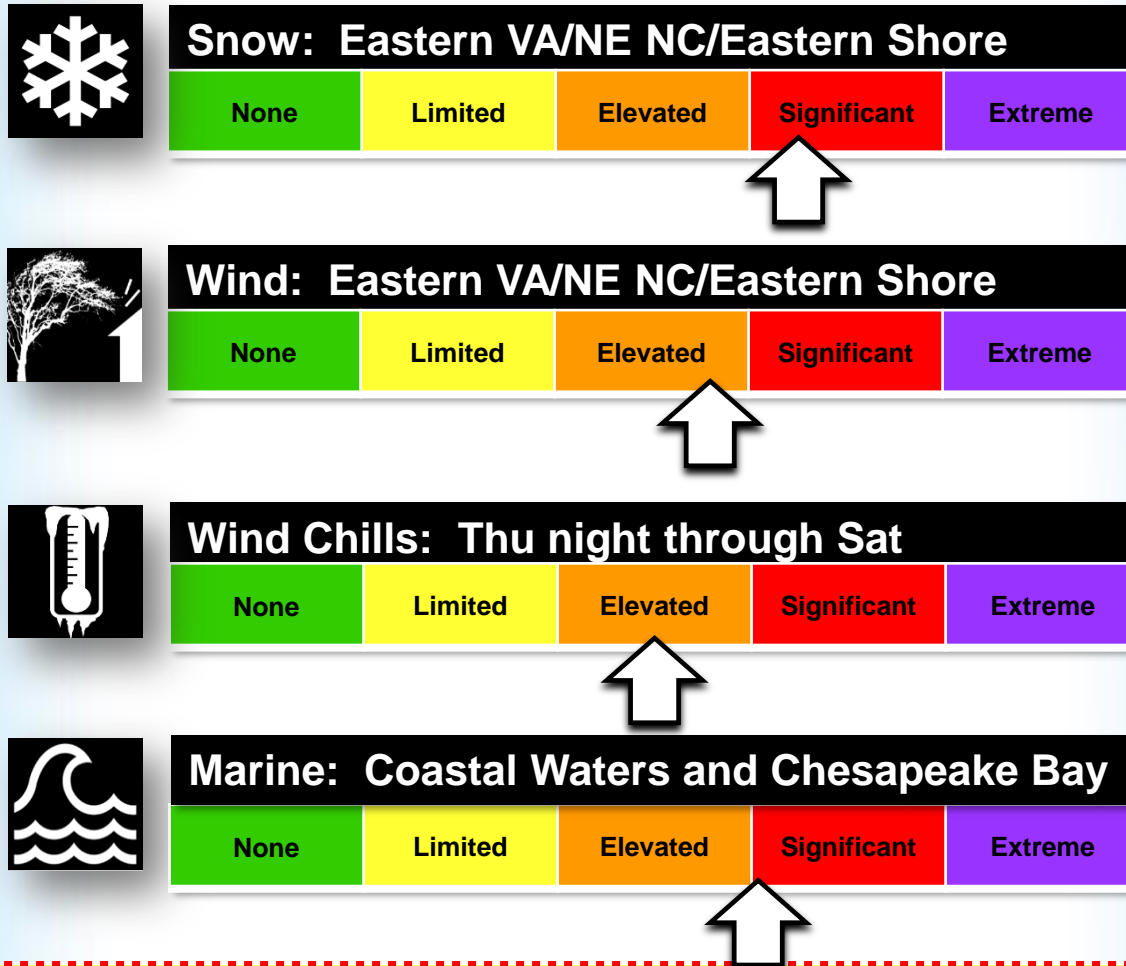
What Has Changed?

- ✓ *Winter Storm Watch upgraded to a Warning for all of coastal VA/NE NC and the lower eastern shore of MD*
- ✓ *WinterWeather Advisories now in effect for portions of central Virginia*

Main Points

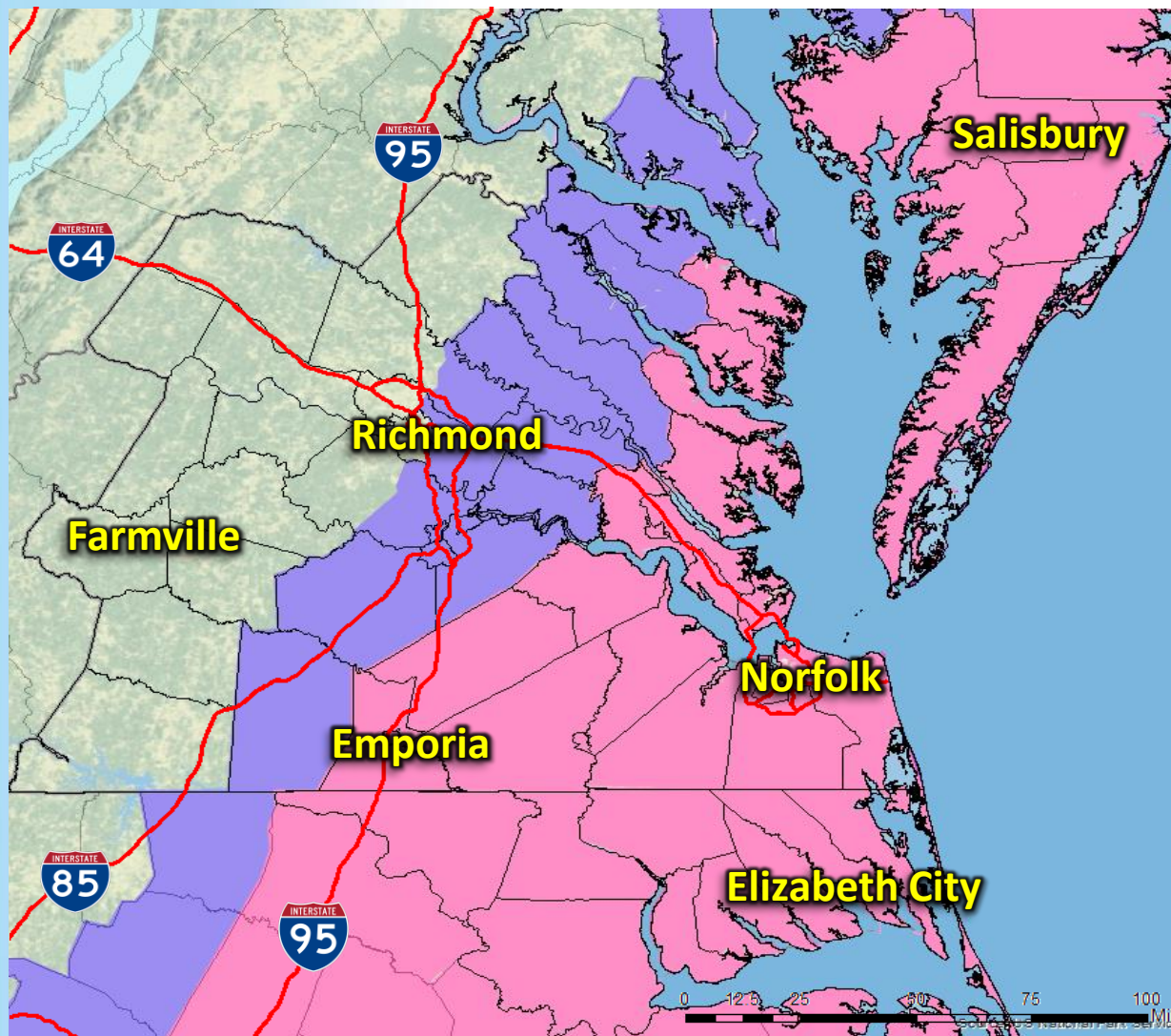
Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Snow 	Accumulation of 4-8" along the coast with locally higher amounts. 1-3" along and east of I-95 corridor.	Central and Eastern VA/MD Eastern Shore/NE NC	Late this afternoon into Thursday morning
Hazardous Travel 	Be prepared for snow covered roads and lower visibilities making driving difficult	Eastern VA/MD Eastern Shore/NE NC	Late Wednesday Afternoon into Thursday morning
Wind 	NNW 15-30 mph. Gusts up to 45 mph on the Atlantic Coast	All of Eastern VA/NE NC/Lower MD Eastern Shore, but strongest along the coast	Tonight and Thursday. Strongest Thursday morning.
Wind Chills 	Prolonged period of sub freezing temperatures with wind chills 5 to 10 degrees in the afternoon and below 0 at night	VA, NC and MD with the most extreme wind chills in the east where winds will be strongest	Thursday night, through Saturday
Marine 	Wind gusts 35 to 45 knots (gusts to 55 knots offshore). Seas to up to 10 to 15 feet; waves up to 5+ feet on the Bay	All Coastal Waters and the Chesapeake Bay	Tonight and Thursday. Strongest Thursday

Summary of Greatest Impacts



Stay weather aware – make your plan now! Stay tuned to local media or NOAA Weather Radio for the latest information.

Land Hazard Overview



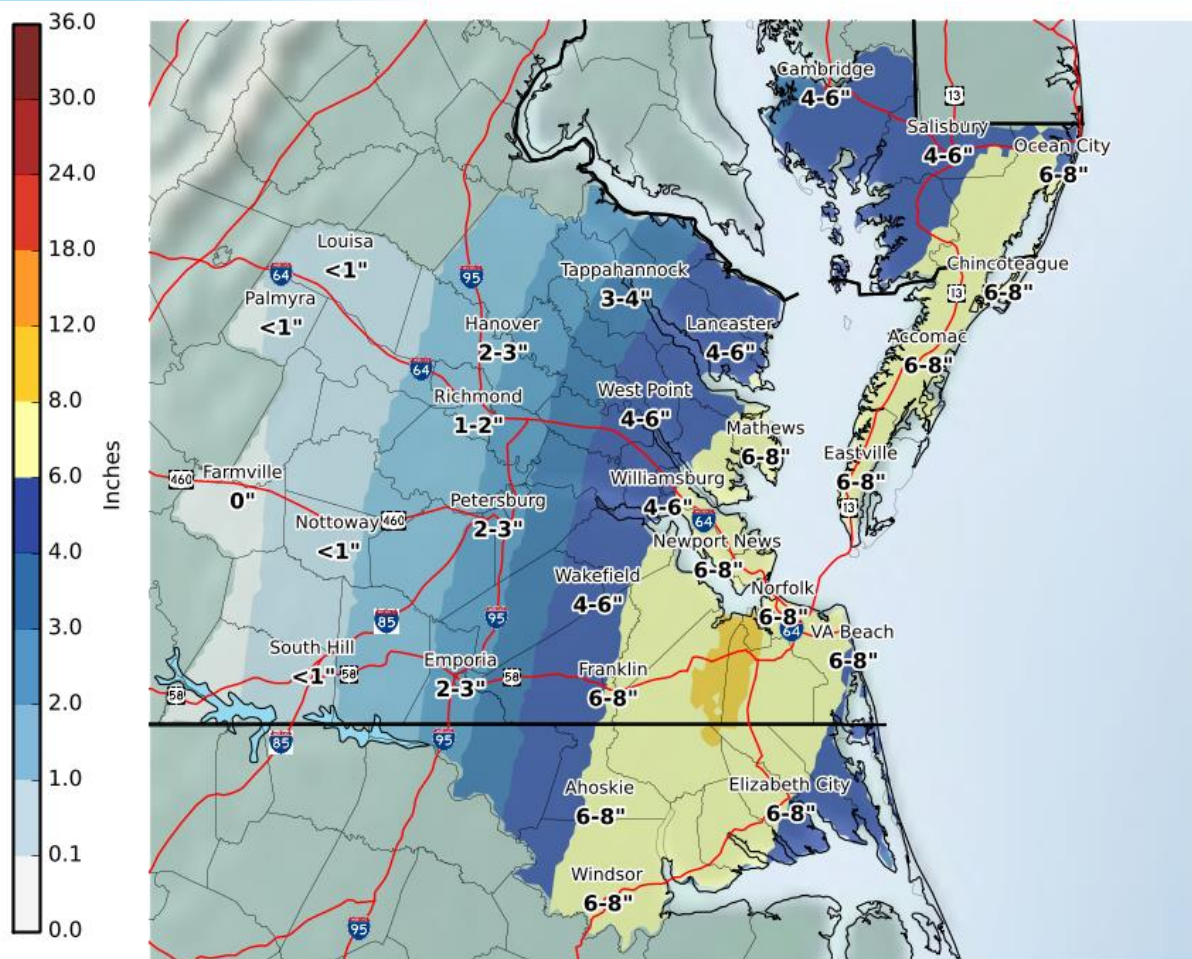
 **Winter Weather Advisory**

 **Winter Storm Warning**

- **Changes:** Winter Storm Watch upgraded to a Warning for E VA and the Lower MD eastern shore.
- **Timing:** Late afternoon through Thursday morning
- **Amounts:** 4-8", with locally higher totals likely along the coast. 1-3" along/east of the I-95 corridor
- **Hazardous driving conditions likely tonight and Thursday**
- **Poor visibility in blowing snow along the coast Thursday morning**

Storm Total Snowfall

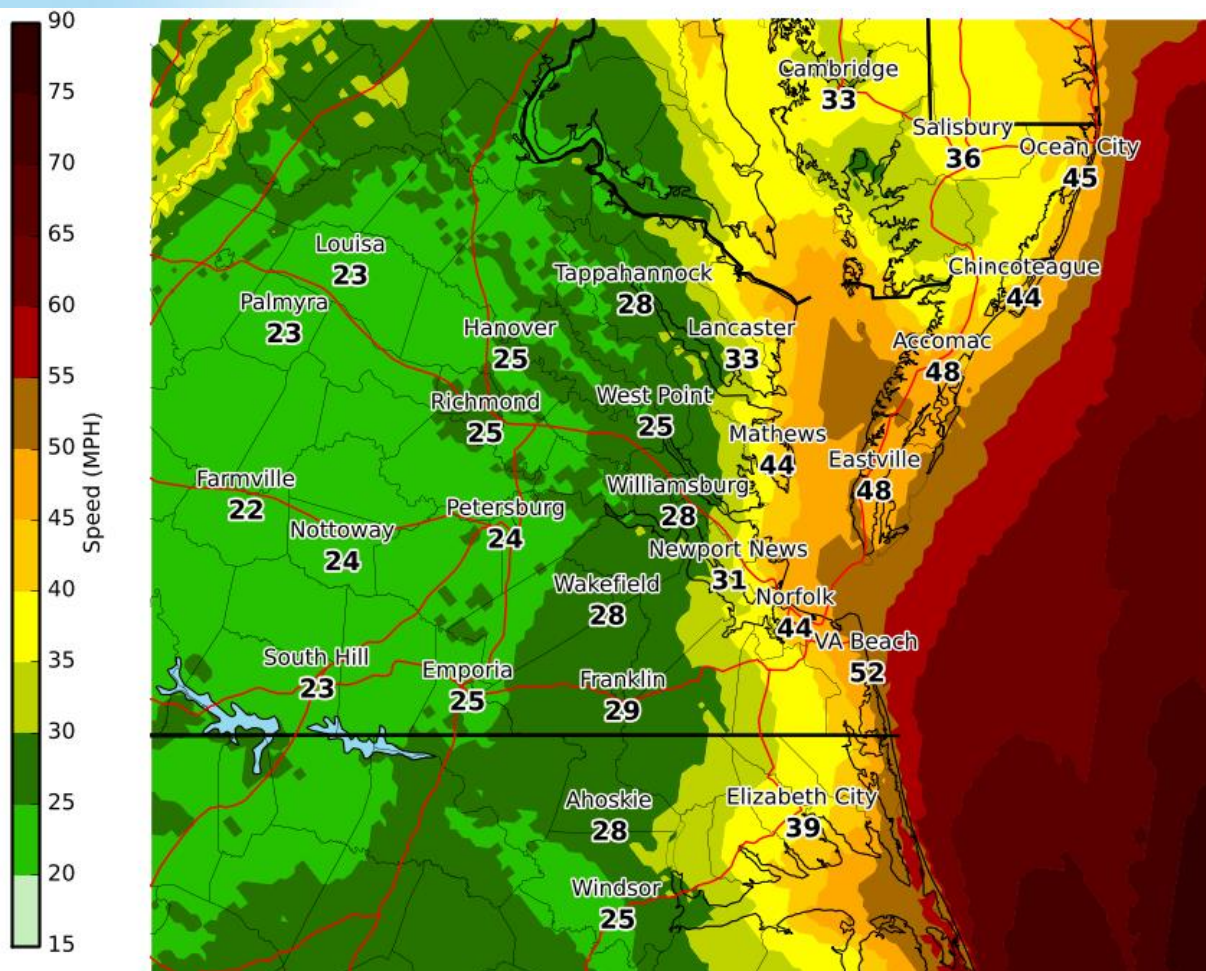
Potential Snow Amounts Late Wed into Thu



- **Confidence:** HIGH for accumulating snow over eastern VA, northeast NC and MD Eastern Shore. MODERATE confidence in the exact amounts
- **Timing:** Late today into Thursday morning.
- **Amounts:** 4-8" along the coast, locally higher amounts. Around 1" possible along the I-95 corridor and east. Expect a sharp cutoff in snow totals.
- **Impacts:** Be prepared for hazardous road conditions late this afternoon & Thursday morning. Blowing snow may reduce visibility tonight/Thu.

Wind Potential

Max Wind Gusts (MPH)



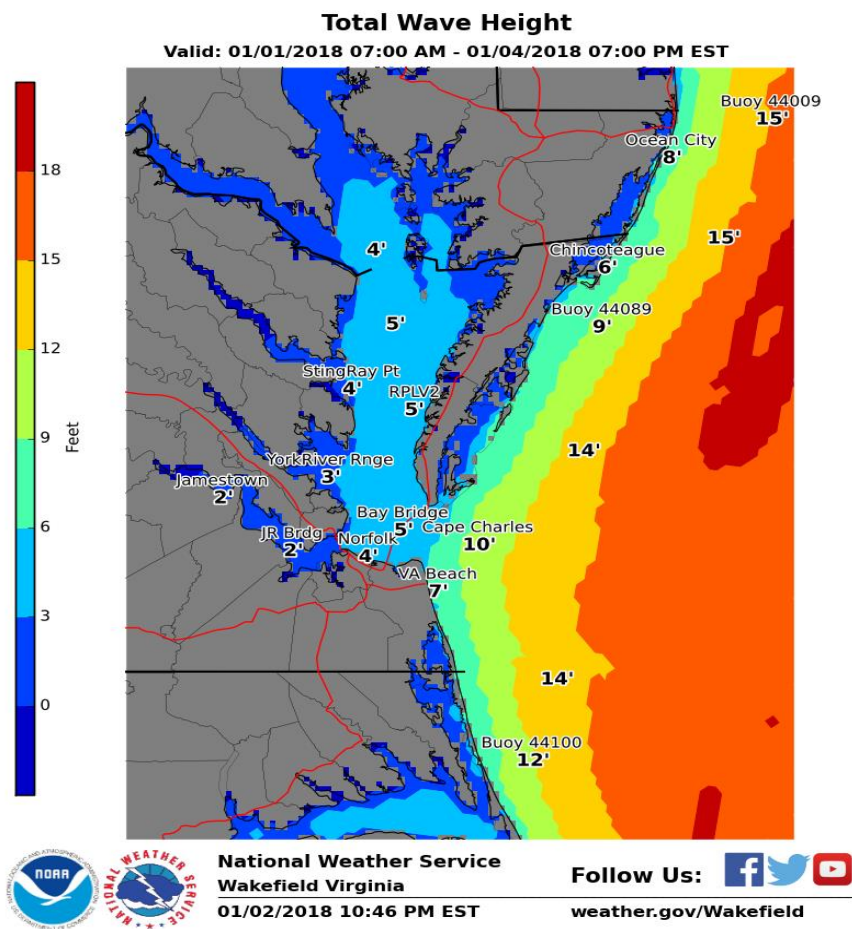
Wind gusts up to 45 mph or greater along the coast and 25 to 35 mph inland

Timing: Winds increase Tonight and persist through Thursday and Friday

Impacts: Bitterly cold wind chills below zero at night and in the single digits to low teens during the day Friday and Saturday

Marine Threat Potential

Max Wave Height (Thu – Sat)



- ✓ **Waves will build rapidly Thursday and remain high through Friday and most of Saturday.**
- ✓ **Timing:** Thursday through Saturday.
- ✓ **Impacts:** Conditions will be hazardous to mariners.
- ✓ **Some beach erosion is likely along north facing beaches especially in the Bay.**

Event Summary

A coastal low will bring accumulating snow & gusty winds to much of our area from this afternoon into Thursday. Snow amounts will be highest from the lower MD eastern shore into Hampton Roads & interior northeast NC. A light snow accumulation can also be expected in the Richmond Metro area.

- ✓ Confidence is **HIGH** that this event will occur and **MODERATE** on expected snow accumulations.
- ✓ We're confident in a mostly snow or snow/rain mix event; no significant icing.
- ✓ Bitterly cold wind chills Thursday evening through Friday and Saturday.
- ✓ Period of greatest snow impact: Tonight through early Thursday.



Snow totals of 4-8" along the coast, 1-3" inland...creating hazardous travel.



Wind gusts of 35-45 mph may cause blowing snow and reduced visibility on Late Wednesday night and Thursday.

Contact and Next Briefing Information



Next Briefing

*When: By 3 pm
Wednesday, January 3*



Briefing Webpage:

<https://www.weather.gov/akq/Brief>

Latest Briefing Available At:

<https://www.weather.gov/media/akq/briefings/LatestBriefing.pdf>



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