

CITY OF RICHMOND HIGH WATER MARK SIGN UNVEILING AND DEDICATION

June 23rd, 2016

10:00—11:00 AM

Pony Pasture Rapids Park
Richmond, VA

GUEST SPEAKERS

Mr. Robert C. Steidel

Director of Public Utilities, City of Richmond

Mr. John J. Buturla

*Deputy Chief Administrative Officer,
City of Richmond*

Ms. April Cummings

*Deputy Director, Mitigation Division, Federal
Emergency Management Agency—Region 3*

Lieutenant Colonel John P. Drew

*Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers, Norfolk District*

Mr. Curtis Brown

*Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and
Homeland Security, Commonwealth of Virginia*

The High Water Mark Campaign is sponsored by the Virginia Silver Jackets in partnership with the City of Richmond. The initiative helps raise awareness by installing high water marks memorializing past floods and by continued education regarding residual flood risk, even within protected areas, to increase resilience into the future.



#RVAfloods

<http://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/State-Teams/Virginia>



VIRGINIA SILVER JACKET
HIGH WATER MARK CAMPAIGN

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



HIGH WATER MARKS

Approximate Elevations:

Tredegar Street Boat put-in (Brown's Island)	40 FT NAVD88/ 4FT AG
Pony Pasture Rapids Park	113FT NAVD88/ 13FT AG
Great Shiplock Park	35.5FT NAVD88/ 17 FT AG

AG = Above the ground at the location of the high water mark.

References:

Photo Credit: Library of Virginia

HURRICANE AGNES AND SIGN UNVEILING CEREMONY

In partnership with:



FEMA



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Norfolk District

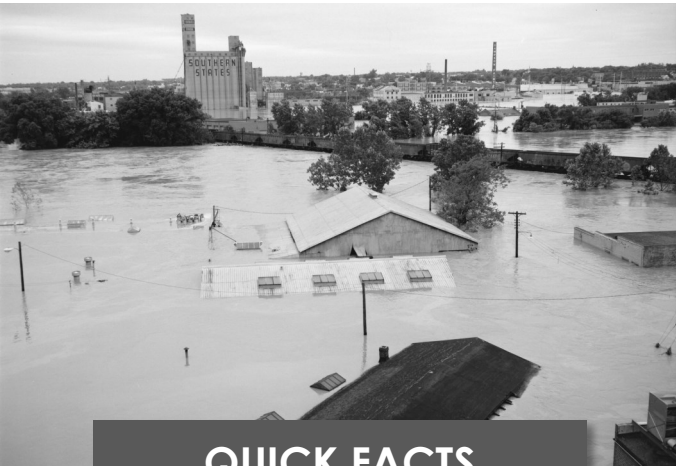


USGS
science for a changing world

DCR
Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

HURRICANE AGNES

June 1972

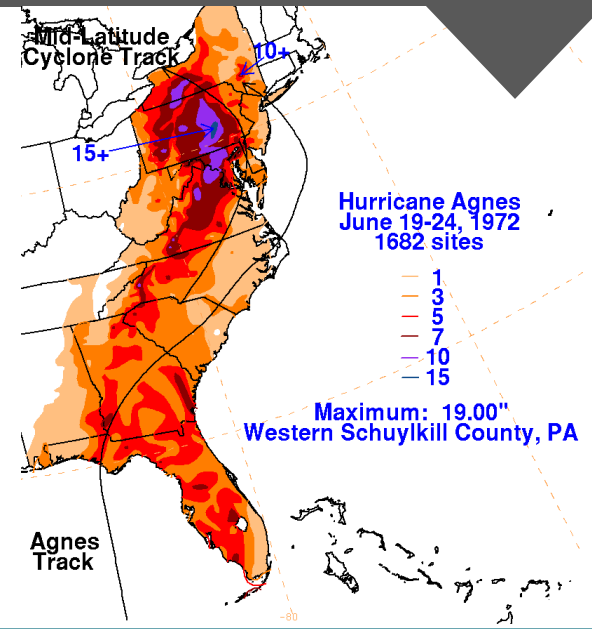


QUICK FACTS

- ▶ Agnes began as a disturbance over the Yucatan Peninsula on June 14, 1972 and became the first named storm of the 1972 hurricane season. *Devastating storms can occur early in the hurricane season.*
- ▶ Agnes was considered a tropical storm as it passed Virginia. By the time Agnes fell apart over Pennsylvania, the storm caused flooding and damage from Florida to New York for a total estimated loss of over \$2 billion (1972 dollars) making it the costliest storm at the time. More than 60 counties and 23 cities in the Commonwealth were impacted by Agnes for an estimated \$222 million in damages. *As history has shown, it does not take a major hurricane to cause significant damage.*
- ▶ Historic Flooding crested in Richmond on June 23, 1972. The flooding occurred from rainfall and crested after the storm passed.



Activity began early in the 1972 hurricane season with the birth of a disturbance over the Yucatan Peninsula on June 14, 1972. By the time Agnes made landfall in Florida on June 19th, the Category 1 Hurricane was on her way to becoming one of the most devastating storms to strike the United States, spawning tornados and sinking vessels. After landfall, Hurricane Agnes quickly lost steam and was downgraded to a tropical storm and then to a tropical depression. The degraded storm was heavy laden with moisture and continued to soak the already waterlogged east coast with heavy rains up to 19 inches.



The threat of flooding can remain after the storm has passed.

- ▶ The historic flooding occurred just three years after Hurricane Camille. *Flooding is a natural event and can occur at any time, even if an event occurred last week or over 40 years ago.*
- ▶ 16 lives were lost in Virginia. A number of deaths occurred within vehicles. *Do not drive through flooded roads. Turn around, don't drown.*
- ▶ Agnes inundated the Richmond Water Treatment Plant causing a critical water supply situation in Richmond. *Even if you are considered outside of the floodplain, critical resources you use may be vulnerable. Be prepared for floods even if you live outside of the floodplain.*

▶ While Gathright Dam was under construction at the time of the event, the concentration of rainfall was approximately 50 miles east of the dam. *Rainfall and flooding can occur anywhere.*

