

Coastal flood alert upgraded, in effect Monday

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The coastal flood advisory issued on Sunday for South Jersey has been upgraded to a coastal flood warning, still in effect until 1 p.m. on Monday. High tide will center around the Monday morning commute, making travel difficult along the shores.

The combination of the strong southeast winds and the new moon on Sunday is the culprit for these high waters. High tide on the New Jersey oceanfront occurs between 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Monday morning. High tide on the back bays occurs later than the high tide on the oceanfront.

The storm surge will be 2 to 3 feet above the astronomical tide.

In moderate flood stage, nearly all bayside roadways flood. In the more vulnerable locations (Atlantic City, Ventnor City, North Wildwood, Ocean City) road closures will be likely. Along the Atlantic Ocean beaches, water will run up to the dunes. Structures that are not on stilts or raised become susceptible to water damage at this level.

Coastal residents should be on alert for rising waters and take appropriate action to protect property. Do not drive your vehicle through flood waters. The water may be deeper than you think it is. You will be putting yourself in danger and your vehicle may be damaged, leading to costly repairs. Remember, the water you drive through is salt water, not fresh.