



MAJOR HURRICANE IRENE MOVING THROUGH THE NORTHERN BAHAMA'S... CONTINUES TAKING AIM AT NEW ENGLAND FOR SUNDAY...FORECAST TO ARRIVE EARLIER...

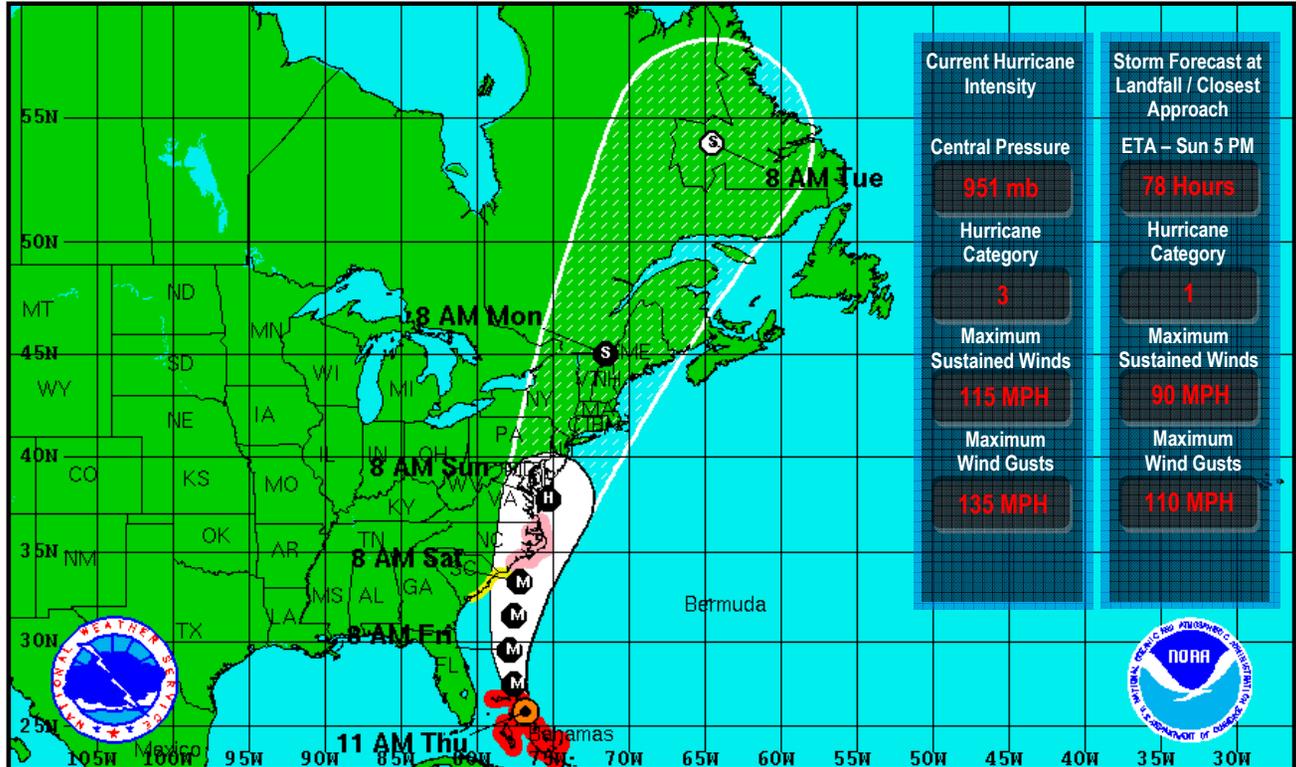
At 11:00 AM the center of Major Hurricane Irene was located at 25.9 North 76.8 West (Approximately 645 Miles South of Cape Hatteras). Irene has maximum sustained winds of 115 MPH and is moving to the North Northwest at 13 MPH.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) is forecasting that Irene will intensify somewhat today and remain a Category III hurricane for the next two days. Irene is forecast to move North on Friday and Saturday crossing the outer banks of Cape Hatteras around 6:00 PM Saturday night.

Irene is then forecast to move up along the immediate East Coast and arrive in the Stamford area around 5:00 PM Sunday afternoon as a Category I hurricane. The first effects from Irene are expected to begin Saturday afternoon with light rain which is expected to become heavy at times by midnight. Heavy rain is expected to continue from midnight on Saturday through the passage of the center of Irene late Sunday afternoon (especially in Western Connecticut). Tropical storm force winds are expected to enter the state late Sunday morning and hurricane force winds are expected by mid afternoon on Sunday. Although forecast confidence is getting better with each update, Irene is still 3 days away and additional changes to the track forecast are likely.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection will issue another update on Irene at 5:15 PM.

National Hurricane Center Storm Track Forecast

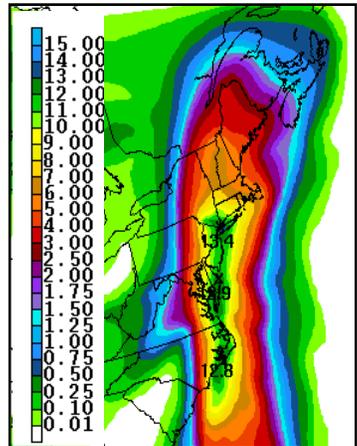


CURRENT WATCHES AND WARNINGS

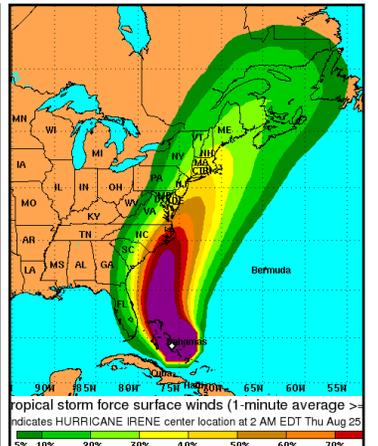
No Watches or Warnings Have Been Issued For Connecticut at this time.

Unrelated to Irene the NOAA Storms Prediction Center has placed Connecticut into the Slight Risk Category for Severe Thunderstorms this afternoon. The primary threats from any storms that develop will be strong winds (15% Chance), hail (15% Chance) and an isolated weak tornado (2% Chance).

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Hydrologic Prediction Center Rainfall Forecast = 7 - 12 Inches



NHC Tropical Storm Force Wind Percentage = 40%