

= Tropical Storm Beryl (2006) =

Tropical Storm Beryl was the third tropical storm of the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season . Developing from a tropical disturbance on July 18 , it tracked generally northward , and strengthened to attain peak winds of 60 mph (95 km / h) under generally favorable conditions . After turning to the northeast , Beryl weakened over cooler waters . On July 21 it struck the island of Nantucket , and shortly thereafter it became extratropical . The extratropical remnants continued northeastward through Nova Scotia , and on July 22 it merged with an approaching cold front .

Beryl produced rough seas along the northeast United States coastline . In Massachusetts , its impact was limited to light rainfall and gusty winds , with no reported damage . Beryl later produced moderate rainfall and gusty winds across Atlantic Canada , resulting in some localized power outages though little damage . No deaths were reported .

= = Meteorological history = =

A cold front moved off the East Coast of the United States on July 16 and stalled off the coast of North Carolina . It gradually decayed into a surface low pressure trough , and developed into two disturbances ; one was centered 290 miles (490 km) south @-@ southeast of Cape Cod and another was located 200 miles (320 km) south of Cape Hatteras , North Carolina . The first low quickly organized into an unnamed tropical storm , and the other area initially remained broad and ill @-@ defined . However , by July 18 , the system became much better organized with improved banding features , and the area developed into Tropical Depression Two while located 220 miles (355 km) south @-@ southeast of Cape Hatteras .

The depression moved slowly to the north @-@ northwest through a break in the subtropical ridge , and as convective banding features became more prominent the system intensified into Tropical Storm Beryl . Throughout much of its duration , the storm tracked through an environment with light vertical wind shear and well @-@ established upper @-@ level outflow . Shortly after becoming a tropical storm , the low @-@ level circulation of Beryl became exposed with limited deep convection , though deep convection re @-@ developed the following morning . Outflow continued to improve , and with warm sea surface temperatures Beryl gradually intensified to attain peak winds of 60 mph (95 km / h) early on July 20 while located about 120 miles (190 km) east of Nags Head , North Carolina .

Beryl maintained peak winds for about 18 hours as it paralleled the Mid @-@ Atlantic and New Jersey coasts , during which an eye @-@ like feature developed in the center of the convection . Late on July 20 , it began a slow weakening trend after passing over cooler waters . Steering winds ahead of an approaching mid @-@ level trough caused Beryl to accelerate northeastward , and early on July 21 the center of the storm crossed the island of Nantucket . The convection diminished as it moved through progressively colder waters , and shortly after 1200 UTC on July 21 Beryl became an extratropical cyclone a short distance east of Cape Cod . Hours later , it made landfall in southwestern Nova Scotia , and on July 22 the extratropical remnants of Beryl merged with an approaching cold front over Newfoundland .

= = Preparations = =

Forecasters initially predicted Beryl to brush the Carolinas ; as such , a tropical storm watch was issued for the eastern coast of North Carolina from Cape Lookout northward to Currituck Beach Lighthouse . When a more northeastward track became apparent , a tropical storm watch was issued about 33 hours prior to moving ashore from Woods Hole to Plymouth , Massachusetts , including Cape Cod , Nantucket , and Martha 's Vineyard . About 22 hours before landfall , the National Hurricane Center replaced the watch with a tropical storm warning for the same area , and also issued a tropical storm watch from Woods Hole , Massachusetts westward to New Haven , Connecticut and for the eastern portion of Long Island from east of Fire Island to Port Jefferson . In anticipation for the storm , the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency was activated as a

trial run for the hurricane season . Local Red Cross chapters were opened , as well , with two volunteer teams placed on standby to assist . Across southeastern Massachusetts , police departments maintained extra staff in preparation for any potential problems from the storm . Many fishermen secured their boats , while some business owners boarded up windows to prevent storm damage .

Several days prior to the passage of Beryl through Atlantic Canada , the Canadian Hurricane Centre issued gale warnings for the coastal waters off Nova Scotia and Newfoundland . In anticipation of heavy rainfall , the agency also issued heavy rainfall warnings for western Nova Scotia , including Halifax .

= = Impact = =

The storm caused high waves along the East Coast of the United States , with 19 @-@ foot seas (5 @.@ 97 m) in the open ocean . Waves along the southern coast of Nantucket reached 10 feet (3 m) in height as the storm approached the island , resulting in four people being rescued by lifeguards from rip currents . High surf also occurred along the southern coast of Massachusetts , prompting the closing of the ferry between Nantucket and Boston . Beryl produced a storm surge of 0 @.@ 9 feet (.27 m) on Nantucket . Winds across southeastern Massachusetts were fairly light , with no sustained tropical storm force winds and wind gusts peaking at 44 mph (71 km / h) ; unofficially gusts reached 51 mph (82 km / h) . Beryl dropped moderate precipitation just offshore , though the maximum precipitation total in the United States was only 0 @.@ 97 inches (24 @.@ 6 mm) on Nantucket . Rainfall along southeastern Massachusetts reached 0 @.@ 33 inches (8 @.@ 38 mm) at Chatham . The only reported damage were some downed telephone poles and fallen tree branches . Overall impact was minor ; there were no reported power outages , deaths , injuries , or maritime emergencies in association with the storm .

The remnants of Beryl dropped moderate precipitation in Atlantic Canada , officially peaking at 2 @.@ 8 inches (71 mm) in Scots Bay , Nova Scotia with an unofficially higher total of 3 @.@ 5 inches (88 mm) ; in some locations 1 inch of rain fell in an hour . Additionally , a station in Fredericton , New Brunswick reported 1 @.@ 77 inches (45 mm) in two hours . The rainfall caused some flooding , with some overflowed streams flooding some streets . Moderate winds were reported along its path , which peaked at 60 mph (96 km / h) in southern Nova Scotia . The winds downed some tree limbs and led to some power outages . Overall damage was minor .