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# *Local Storm Reports Database*

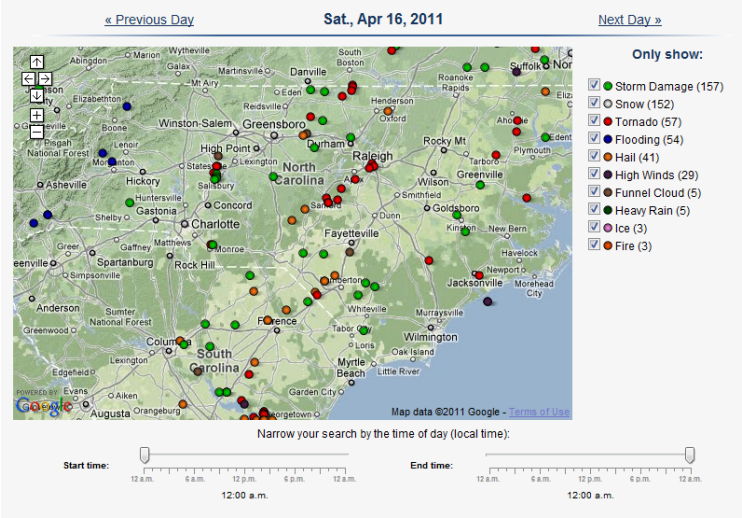
**http://nc-climate.ncsu.edu/lsrdb/index.php**

## THE NEED

The State Climate Office of North Carolina frequently receives requests for storm data, including reports of lightning, hail, flooding and storm damage. This data may be intended for insurance claims, research on the climate history of a location, or a monthly summary of statewide weather events. However, the State Climate Office did not have an archive of this important and often-requested piece of climate data.

## SERVING THE NEED

National Weather Service offices across the country regularly issue Local Storm Reports for storm events within their county warning areas. These reports contain useful information, such as the event type, date and time, and location, but this information is contained in a raw, text-based format that can be difficult to search. The power of the Local Storm Reports database is that is makes these reports easy to search and visualize using the interactive maps and tables.




The Local Storm Reports Database is also integrated with daily weather observations from the NC CRONOS database and an archive of national radar and satellite data. This allows users to view temperature and precipitation observations from nearby weather stations, along with radar and satellite imagery from near the time of each report. By combining these three unique datasets, users can get a comprehensive look at the environment and impacts of hazardous weather events.

## IMPACT

The Local Storm Reports Database was launched in August 2010, and it has since been recommended to clients seeking reports near their homes, location-based climatologies, and damage reports from significant events, such as hurricanes and tornado outbreaks. Clients have said this database is easy to use and the maps provide an intuitive look at the spatial coverage of events.

George, a construction engineer from Wilmington, used the Local Storm Reports to determine the timing of high winds, heavy rain and flooding during Hurricane Irene. This helped him assess the primary causes of damage to property along the coast. In addition, National Weather Service forecasters and state climatologists have used the database in their own offices to monitor daily and monthly storm reports in their areas.

## PARTNERS & SUPPORT

Development of the Local Storm Reports Database was supported by the State Climate Office of North Carolina and the Southeast Regional Climate Center. Data sources include the National Weather Service, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, and the College of DuPage's NexLab radar archive.