

How Hail Impact Reports, High Resolution Weather Data and Qualified Experts Can Help Resolve Claims More Effectively

BY HOWARD ALTSCHULE, CERTIFIED CONSULTING METEOROLOGIST

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS of damage occurs each year as a result of weather events and catastrophes that strike the U.S. Among the biggest damage producers are large hail-producing thunderstorms that pass over populated areas. Following these CAT hailstorms, thousands of new hail claims come pouring in — some are legitimate and some are not. As a result, obtaining accurate weather information and hail reports for each specific loss location is now more important than ever. Forensic Weather Consultants is pleased to introduce an incredibly reliable way to determine when hail occurred and how large it was at a specific address. Plus, if the case proceeds to litigation, we can provide more detailed studies and an in-depth report that can be used in depositions and live trial testimony. The use of reliable data sources and qualified experts who are educated and experienced in their field of expertise has never been more important.

New Technology To Determine Historical Hail Sizes and Dates of Loss

When dealing with hail claims, two of the most common questions asked are: 1) When was the last time large hail occurred? and 2) How large was the hail on a specific date? Many times, the reported date of loss was on a day when there wasn't a cloud in the sky. Answering these questions with accuracy used to be time consuming and costly, but now we have introduced a reliable way to determine this.

Using multi-radar and multiple-Doppler radar product technology, Forensic Weather Consultants now provides historical hail information at a specific location.



Within seconds of ordering a report on our webpage, users will receive a listing of when hail was detected at a specific address, what the maximum hail size was on each of those dates, and a radar image depicting the hail region. These reports can be used to determine if the date of loss occurred during the policy period and when the last time large hail occurred. In a day and age where due diligence and proper investigation of a claim is important, adjusters can use this reliable data to quickly and efficiently determine how to proceed with a claim.

High-Resolution Hail Swath Maps

Harnessing advanced Doppler radar, dual-polarization technology and years of scientific NOAA research and studies, our Hail Swath maps help CAT teams, adjusters and other professionals zero in on towns, streets, and neighborhoods that were affected by hail. Since hail can fall on one side of town and not the other, this high resolution data is extremely valuable and it can help identify what policyholders, homes or businesses may have experienced hail damage.

The Importance of Retaining the Right Expert

As one of the only weather expert firms in the country to provide a full-service suite of products, our team of Certified Consulting Meteorologists (CCM) and Consulting Meteorologists is positioned to provide your company with site-specific weather information for any type of weather related claim — big or small.

Since it is important to get accurate weather information from someone who is a true expert in the field, more and more insurance carriers, attorneys and engineers are turning to Forensic Weather Consultants to provide them with specific weather information for the incident location itself. Relying on a NOAA hail report 7 miles away from a loss location just doesn't cut it. But having weather information specifically for a loss location goes a long way when resolving a claim, whether it is on the adjuster level or in Federal court.

Howard Altschule is a Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) and the owner of Forensic Weather Consultants. The company provides very detailed, forensic weather reports and information for hail claims, hurricane cases, slip and falls on snow/ice and many other types of incidents and accidents in the U.S.

www.WeatherConsultants.com
518-862-1800

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