

## What Do You Remember

Please respond to this question:

*What weather (wind, snow, flooding) related storms do you remember?*

Lee Dickinson - The snow storm of 1978 was significant and prohibited many off the beaten path to get anywhere for several days. Then came the wind storm (derecho) of 1998 that toppled trees onto houses and vehicles and roads. By far, the wind storm of June, 2024, was even worse!

Peggy Mason - Looking out our front window we saw our metal shed getting lifted up by the windstorm. Dad and my brothers went out to try to secure it. As they were working a massive locust tree started to blow over. Dad called a tow truck to hold it back from our house. The tow truck started to get pulled up and a second tow truck was called. Dad called the insurance guy to see if they would pay for the tow truck. Since there was not yet damage to the house the insurance wouldn't cover it, dad told him to let the tree loose and smash the house. The insurance guy changed his mind and agreed to pay.

Mary Mason - One winter in the pre mid 70s I was driving from Whitehall to working Hart an old 31. This was before the freeway. I got your New Era and the road was entirely black by 3 or 4 feet of pristine snow. I turned around and went back home to bed.

Barbara Brow - Two weather-related events come to mind. One involved wind and snow and the other mostly the wind and rain.



It was January 26 & 27, 1978 and we were living in Muskegon at the time. Overnight we got a considerable amount of snow that accumulated in drifts in our driveway. When my husband opened the garage door he was greeted by almost waist deep snow on our single car driveway. Fortunately, we had an extra parking strip adjacent to the drive that allowed him to shovel and pile the snow, even though it too was already covered with much snow and drifting. After working about an hour, he had managed to clear a spot across the width of the single stall garage and about 3 feet out from the house. This continued off and on throughout the day, and maybe into the next. Of course, no plows had been able to get down the streets, so there was nowhere to go when you reached the end of the drive anyway. And when they did come down, that meant the end of the drive needed to be cleaned out and the snow piled somewhere. (Pictures included: Two views looking out the garage door and two pics of our 2 1/2-year-old daughter sitting on the snowbanks.)

The other event was wind related and took place in May 1998. We were at our cottage in the evening when a storm came barreling across the Lake with fierce lightning and howling winds. My husband and I stood in the living room looking out of 3-6ft sliders that spanned across the house. At times the lighting lit up the sky like it was daylight and you could clearly see the tree line. Then everything went black again until the next flash. A little awning window was open on the south side of the living room, and I could hear snapping sounds. I asked my husband what that noise was, and he said, "It's the trees and branches snapping." Suddenly I didn't think we should be standing in front of 3-6ft sliders.

When the morning light came up, the air was filled with the scent of pine. We found that we had lost several big old pine trees and lots of other tree branches, but there was fortunately no damage to the house. This was our experience with a Derecho - straight line winds - May 30-31, 1998.

