Importing Atlas 14 Data into HydroCAD

Export Data from Atlas 14 Precipitation Data Frequency Server

Data should be exported and edited if necessary so that when open in a text editor it looks like file below. See helpsheet **Downloading Data Using Internet Explorer 8** on the Atlas 14 web page.

http://ihub/bridge/hydraulics/atlas14/pdf/Atlas 14 DownloadingDataUsingInternetExplorer8.pdf

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Atlas14_2016.csv - Notepad
 File Edit Format View Help
Point precipitation frequency estimates (inches),,,,,,,,,
NOAA Atlas 14 Volume 8 Version 2,,,,,,,,
Data type: Precipitation depth,,,,,,,,,
Station Name:
Latitude: 44.9992°..
Longitude: -92.9614°,
Elevation (USGS): 1020.85 ft,,,,,,,
Ξ
60-min:,1.17,1.38,1.75,2.09,2.59,3.02,3.47,3.96,4.65,5.21
2-hr:,1.44,1.69,2.15,2.58,3.25,3.82,4.45,5.14,6.13,6.95
3-hr:,1.61,1.87,2.38,2.88,3.68,4.38,5.17,6.05,7.33,8.39
6-hr:,1.89,2.18,2.77,3.37,4.35,5.23,6.22,7.34,8.98,10.36
12-hr:,2.12,2.48,3.16,3.83,4.9,5.85,6.89,8.06,9.76,11.17
24-hr:,2.44,2.79,3.49,4.17,5.27,6.24,7.32,8.52,10.29,11.76
2-day:,2.84,3.17,3.83,4.5,5.59,6.58,7.7,8.95,10.8,12.35
3-day:,3.13,3.45,4.09,4.75,5.85,6.84,7.97,9.24,11.13,12.71
4-day:,3.36,3.69,4.35,5.02,6.13,7.12,8.25,9.51,11.38,12.94

7-day:,3.89,4.32,5.12,5.87,7.03,8.03,9.11,10.3,12,13.4

10-day:,4.38,4.91,5.83,6.64,7.86,8.86,9.91,11.04,12.63,13.9

20-day:,5.95,6.66,7.82,8.79,10.14,11.2,12.26,13.34,14.78,15.88

30-day:,7.37,8.22,9.58,10.69,12.18,13.3,14.39,15.48,16.87,17.89
45-day:,9.24,10.3,11.96,13.27,14.96,16.19,17.34,18.43,19.76,20.68
60-day:,10.88,12.15,14.1,15.6,17.49,18.82,20.02,21.12,22.38,23.2
Date/time (GMT): Thu Oct 20 20:43:25 2016,,,,,,,,
pyRunTime: 0.139850139618,,,,,,,,,
```

Open Data file in HydroCAD

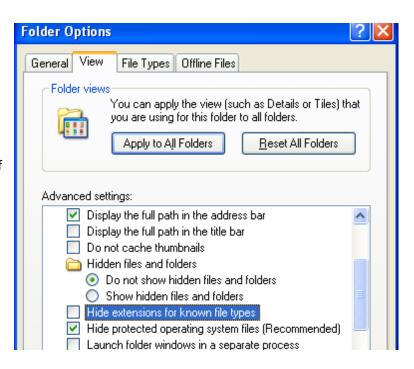
Instructions below work for HydroCAD Version 10.0, Build 19 or greater. If you HydroCAD 10 with a build prior to 19, see the instructions on page 8 to edit the csv file prior to completing the instructions below.

Copy file to directory with HydroCAD project file

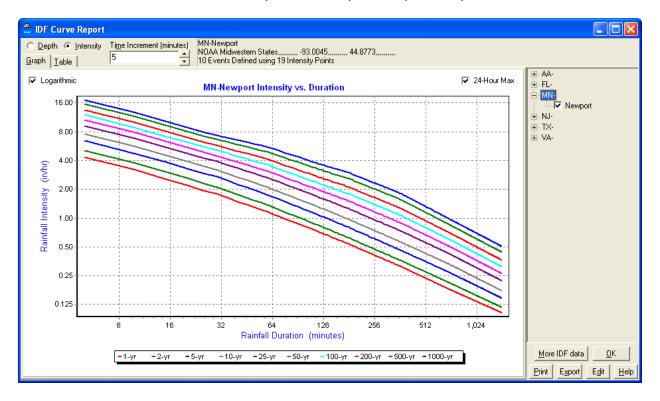
Rename file and change extension of atlas 14 data to "hci"

(If extensions not shown, then go to windows explorer and select Tools > Folder Options > View and toggle off Hide Extensions for known file types.





Double click on the hci file in Windows Explorer to verify that it opens in HydroCAD



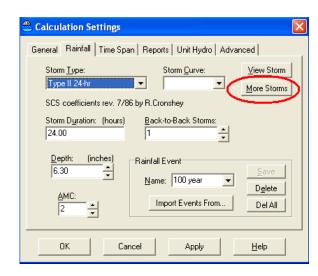
Import Atlas 14 Rainfall Data into HydroCAD Project

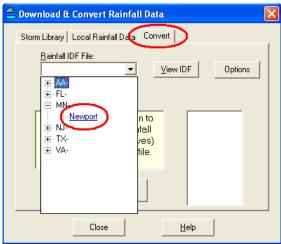
Open project and go to Settings > Calculation > Rainfall

Select More Storms

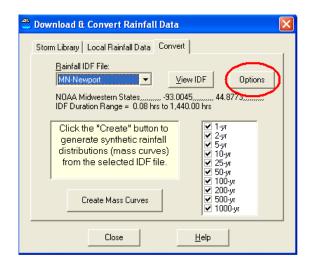
Select the Convert Tab

Click on the dropdown arrow by Rainfall IDF File and select the rainfall distribution.

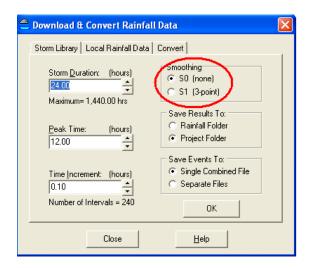




Select Options button

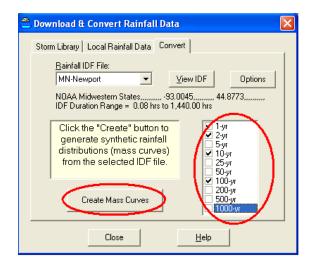


Select the SO (none) smoothing option and OK



Toggle off Return Periods not used

Select Create Mass Curves



Confirm Store curves in project file

Confirm Select new Storm file

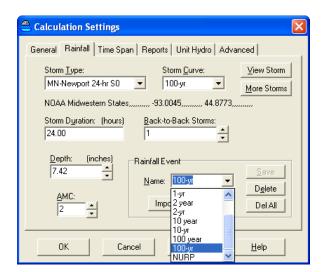
For message box asking to replace all current rainfall events:

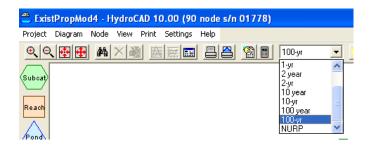
- If new project and just using Atlas 14 rainfall, then click on Yes.
- If existing project and you want to keep previous rainfall information the project, then click on No.





Rainfall events can then be selected from the Calculations Settings dialog or from the drop down Events on the main view.





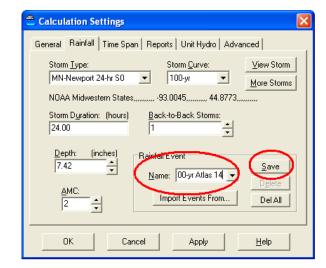
Optional: Rainfall events can be renamed on the Calculation Settings Rainfall dialog.

Select the rainfall event

Edit the name

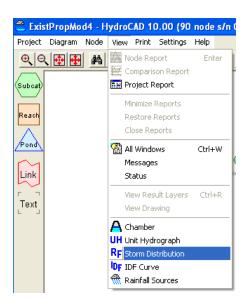
Select Save – this creates a new rainfall event

Delete rainfall event with non-edited name

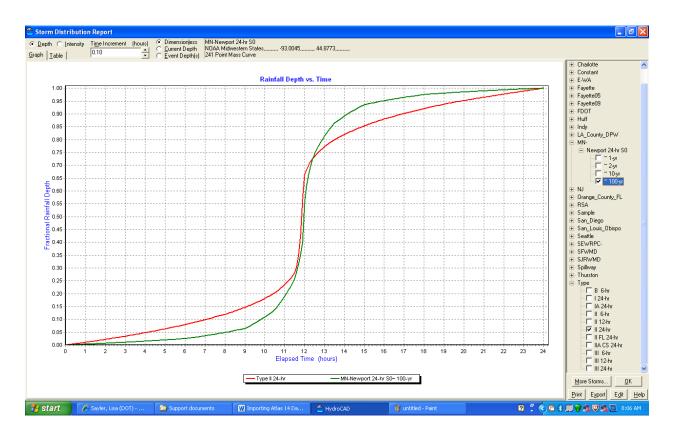


Compare Rainfall Distributions

To compare the storm distribution, select View > Storm Distribution



Toggle on/off storms to compare. For this location, the Atlas 14 rainfall distribution is more intense than the NRCS Type II distribution.

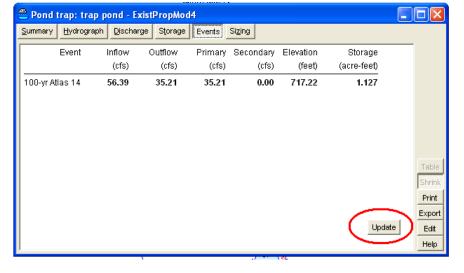


Compare results from multiple events

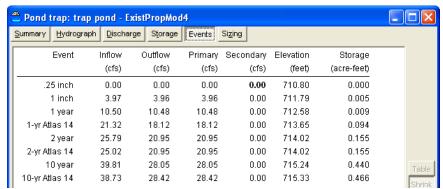
The results from multiple rainfall events can be displayed in tabular form. Go to a node and double click to bring up the results dialog.

Select the Events tab

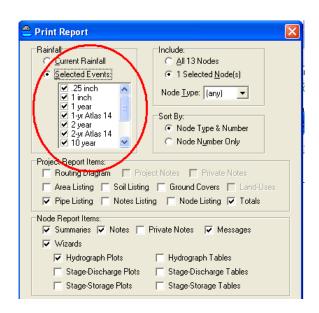
Click on the Update button



The computed results from all of the storm events in the project will be computed and displayed in the table.



Multiple events can be included in the report as desired by selecting appropriate events from the Print > Report dialog.



Work Around for HydroCAD 10 below Build 19

In 2016, NOAA modified the output format of csv data. HydroCAD released a new build that will import both the old and new format. If your version of HydroCAD 10 is before Build 19, then it is an easy edit to the output data to make it work with previous builds.

Previous to fall, 2016, Atlas 14 had the word "years" after the 1000 in the export file. To import this data into an older build of HydroCAD, you will need to edit the downloaded file either in Excel or a text editor to add the word "years" after 1000:

Original 5/1/2013 - LKS

Updated 10/20/2016 by LKS because of update to Atlas 14 data export file