



Left: Radar image showing composite reflectivity at the time of golfball to baseball size hail and larger across the Rio Grande Valley. Baseball size hail was reported in the McAllen and Mission area, and Golfball size hail was soon to be reported near Raymondville (upper right) soon after, most between 525 and 555 PM . **Right:** Radar image showing “hook” echo moving southwest of Harlingen, shortly before an apparent small tornado was reported near Rangerville at approximately 635 PM.

Twice in Three Weeks!

Hailstorms Race through the Mid Valley April 20th 2012

McAllen/Mission/Edinburg/Pharr struck by worst blows

Recap in Brief

A rapidly developing disturbance racing through southeast Texas triggered the “loaded gun” of an unstable atmosphere during the late afternoon of April 20th, and thunderstorms exploded into the atmosphere well above the freezing layer. Just three weeks after McAllen/Edinburg/Pharr/Mission was slammed by buckets of golf ball to baseball size hail and 70 to 75 mph wind gusts, fast moving intense storms dropped significantly lesser amounts of hail and rain, but large hailstones just the same, ranging from golf ball to as large as grapefruits! Isolated small tornadoes touched down briefly in Raymondville and Rangerville (southwest of Harlingen), with minor damage to trees on one property. Additional details forthcoming as photos and stories are received. For more photos, consult our [Facebook Page](#). Videos can be found on [YouTube](#). A preliminary summary of all reports received by the National Weather Service in Brownsville follows:

PRELIMINARY LOCAL STORM [REPORT](#)...SUMMARY
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BROWNSVILLE TX
 218 PM CDT [SAT](#) APR 21 2012

..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT.LON...
..DATE...MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION..ST..	...SOURCE....
	..REMARKS..		
0420 PM	HAIL	5 NE LA GLORIA	26.77N 98.48W
04/20/2012	E1.00 INCH	STARR TX	OTHER FEDERAL
	US POSTAL SERVICE IN SANTA ELENA REPORTED QUARTER SIZED HAIL .		
0430 PM	HAIL	ENCINO	26.93N 98.13W
04/20/2012	E1.00 INCH	BROOKS TX	LAW ENFORCEMENT

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE REPORTS QUARTER SIZE HAIL
FELL IN ENCINO.

0436 PM HAIL 5 E LA GLORIA 26.72N 98.46W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH STARR TX CO-OP OBSERVER

NWS CO-OP OBSERVER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE HAIL AND WIND
GUST TO 50 TO 60 MPH NEAR SAN ISIDRO

0520 PM HAIL MCCOOK 26.48N 98.38W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX LAW ENFORCEMENT

HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE REPORTS QUARTER TO
GOLFBALL SIZE HAIL FELL IN THE VICINITY OF MCCOOK.

0525 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS BASEBALL SIZE HAIL IN MISSION NEAR PALM
DRIVE AND 5 MILE WIND EST. TO 50 MPH

0526 PM HAIL 5 N MISSION 26.28N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

GOLF BALL SIZE HAIL REPORTED IN ALTON NEAR INTERSECTION
OF 5 MILE ROAD AND CONWAY.

0526 PM HAIL 6 NNW MCALLEN 26.29N 98.26W
04/20/2012 E2.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

BEGAN AT 526 PM CONTINUED THROUGH AT LEAST 536 PM.

0527 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLFBALL SIZED HAIL REPORTED IN MISSION NORTH OF 107.

0527 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

QUARTER SIZE HAIL REPORTED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF
TRENTON AND 10 STREET.

0529 PM HAIL 5 NE PALMVIEW 26.28N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX AMATEUR RADIO

QUARTER SIZE TO GOLF BALL SIZE REPORTS IN PALMHURST
AREA.

0530 PM TSTM WND GST MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E60 MPH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

REPORTS OF 60 MPH WIND GUSTS AND GOLF BALL SIZED HAIL
AT STUART AND 21ST.

0530 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

REPORTS OF 60 MPH WIND GUSTS AND GOLF BALL SIZED HAIL
AT STUART AND 21ST.

0531 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W

04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

SKYWARN SPOTTER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE HAIL IN NORTHEAST MCALLEN

0531 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

GOLFBALL SIZE HAIL REPORTED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF BICENTENIAL AND NOLANA.

0532 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLF BALL SIZED HAIL REPORTED AT 4 MILE AND WARE.

0534 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTED DIME TO BASEBALL SIZE HAIL AT NOLANA AND 23RD.

0536 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX NWS EMPLOYEE

BASEBALL/FIST SIZED HAIL REPORTED AT TAYLOR AND 5 MILE ROAD.

0538 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLF BALL SIZED HAIL REPORTED AT SHARY AND 3 MILE ROAD.

0539 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

SKYWARN SPOTTERS REPORT GOLF TO BASEBALL SIZE HAIL ON WARE RD AND QUARTER SIZE ON 23RD AND 5 MILE

0545 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX POST OFFICE

PUBLIC REPORTS OF BASEBALL SIZE HAIL ON 2500 JASMINE

0545 PM TORNADO 1 SE RAYMONDVILLE 26.47N 97.77W
04/20/2012 WILLACY TX PUBLIC

BRIEF TOUCHDOWN AND LIFT UP. NO DAMAGE REPORTED.

0545 PM FUNNEL CLOUD RAYMONDVILLE 26.48N 97.78W
04/20/2012 WILLACY TX PUBLIC

FUNNEL CLOUD REPORTED IN RAYMONDVILLE.

0545 PM HAIL EDINBURG 26.30N 98.16W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX LAW ENFORCEMENT

EDINBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS GOLFBALL SIZE HAIL FELL IN EDINBURG BETWEEN 530 AND 6 PM CDT AT THE INTERSECTION OF CLOSNER AND CANTON.

0550 PM HAIL PHARR 26.18N 98.19W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS GOLF BALL SIZE HAIL IN SOUTH PHARR

0550 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E4.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

SOFTBALL SIZED HAIL REPORTED AT MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL.

0551 PM HAIL S RAYMONDVILLE 26.48N 97.78W
04/20/2012 E0.75 INCH WILLACY TX PUBLIC

PENNY SIZED HAIL REPORTED SOUTH OF RAYMONDVILLE.

0552 PM HAIL 1 SSW RAYMONDVILLE 26.47N 97.78W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH WILLACY TX EMERGENCY MNGR

REPORTED ALL OVER TOWN. LOCATION OF THIS REPORT AT EOC
ON S. 7TH STREET. DURATION OF HAIL TWO MINUTES.

0554 PM HAIL HIDALGO 26.10N 98.26W
04/20/2012 E2.00 INCH HIDALGO TX FIRE DEPT/RESCUE

LARGE HAIL REPORTED AT MILITARY HWY AND 281.

0556 PM HAIL PALMVIEW 26.23N 98.37W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

0559 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED HAIL REPORTED ON W 40TH STREET.

0601 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E2.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS LARGE HAIL IN ALTON JUST NORTH OF
MISSION MILE 5 REPORTS NUMEROUS BROKEN CAR WINDSHIELDS

0605 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

SKYWARN SPOTTER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE ON SHARY ROAD IN
MISSION

0605 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZE HAIL REPORTED AT THE HARRY SHIMOTSU
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

0608 PM HAIL MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED HAIL REPORTED AT CONWAY.

0610 PM HAIL LYFORD 26.41N 97.79W
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH WILLACY TX PUBLIC

GOLFBALL SIZE HAIL REPORTED ON HIGHWAY 77 NEAR LYFORD.

0625 PM HAIL MISSION 26.21N 98.32W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZE HAIL NEAR CHIMMEY PARK

0635 PM TORNADO 6 SSW HARLINGEN 26.12N 97.73W
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX EMERGENCY MNGR

REPORT OF FUNNEL AND TOUCH DOWN SOUTHWEST OF HIGHWAY 77
IN HARLINGEN. RESIDENT AT INTERSECTION OF RANGERVILLE
ROAD AND CR 800 REPORTED SPLIT TREE BLOWN ACROSS ROAD
AND DEBRIS IN BACKYARD.

0636 PM HAIL HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZE HAIL REPORTED AT 2425 ED CAREY ROAD.

0638 PM FUNNEL CLOUD 2 N SAN BENITO 26.17N 97.64W
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX TRAINED SPOTTER

FUNNEL CLOUD REPORTED ON NORTH SIDE OF SAN BENITO.

0644 PM HAIL HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED HAIL REPORTED NEAR HARLINGEN HIGH SCHOOL.

0645 PM HAIL LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX TRAINED SPOTTER

SKYWARN SPOTTER REPORTS NICKEL SIZE HAIL

0645 PM HAIL LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZED HAIL REPORTED NEAR LAURELES.

0645 PM HAIL HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZE REPORTED NEAR THE TREASURE HILLS AREA OF
HARLINGEN.

0648 PM HAIL LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED HAIL AND WIND GUSTS OF AT LEAST 50 MPH.

0648 PM FUNNEL CLOUD HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX POST OFFICE

PUBLIC REPORTS FUNNEL CLOUD EAST OF HARLINGEN AIRPORT

0652 PM FUNNEL CLOUD HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORT OF FUNNEL CLOUD NEAR HARLINGEN AIRPORT

0700 PM HAIL 1 SSE BROWNSVILLE 25.91N 97.47W
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX PUBLIC

INTERSECTION OF SOUTHMOST AND INTERNATIONAL BLVD.
NICKEL TO QUARTER SIZE STONES.

0710 PM HAIL 5 SSW RANCHO VIEJO 25.97N 97.59W

04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH

CAMERON

TX PUBLIC

MOSTLY NICKEL SIZED BUT SEVERAL STONES OF QUARTER SIZED
EMBEDDED.



Softball size hail! Photo taken near McAllen, Texas. Large hail of this size can only happen with intense updrafts, perhaps as fast as 100+ mph. Courtesy of John Letney of Laredo, KE5CVT (amateur radio).



Left: Photograph of possible wall cloud at the southern edge of the storm as it approached Brownsville, Texas, just before 7 PM April 20th* (Claude Brehm). **Right:** Undulating mammatus clouds after the storms passed into Mexico. Both photos were taken in the City of Brownsville.



Is there a pot of gold at the end of this rainbow? After several bouts of hail and windstorms within a three week period beginning on March 29th, let's hope so!