

## Historical Space Weather Events

The chart below lists several of the worst sun-induced events in recorded history. Some are more serious than others, but all had some effect on the daily lives of many people. Look over the list and mark the 3 that seem most interesting to you.

Date	Location	Impact/Significance	Websites:
5/13/1921	New York	Shut down city railroads	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
3/25/1940	Boston, New York	Easter Sunday phone calls disrupted	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
9/18/1941	New York	Brooklyn Dodgers Baseball game	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
2/24/1956	Vermont	Crossed signals, lost submarine	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
8/2/1972	North America	First well-studied storm	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
7/11/1979	Skylab satellite in orbit	Excessive drag led to early reentry	<a href="http://www.space.com">www.space.com</a>
3/13/1989	Quebec, Canada	>1,000,000 people lost power in Montreal	<a href="http://www.ucar.edu/spaceweather.blackout/">www.ucar.edu/spaceweather.blackout/</a> <a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>
1/11/1997	Telstar 401 satellite	\$200 million satellite destroyed TV disrupted	<a href="http://www.answers.com">www.answers.com</a>
10/29/2003	Halloween Storm	Largest solar flare ever recorded	<a href="http://www.solarstorms.org">www.solarstorms.org</a>

Credit: websites listed above and *The 23<sup>rd</sup> Cycle* by Sten Odenwald

Now, using the websites and the related information, write a paragraph on lined paper about each of the 3 solar storms that you selected. Be sure to include the date, locations of activity, how humans were affected, and any other pertinent information. Don't try to include every detail, just the most important and interesting parts of the story. The goal is to gain an understanding of how solar storms might affect YOU. Therefore, the fourth and final paragraph should be about ways that a solar storm THIS year might affect YOUR life. Think about the technologies that you depend on daily that might be influenced by the behavior of the sun, especially as we approach the next Solar Maximum in 2011 or 2012.