Severe Weather Risk
Thursday, February 20, 2014

Threat Assessment for south-central Indiana and central Kentucky

Prepared: 2/20/14 5:15 AM EST

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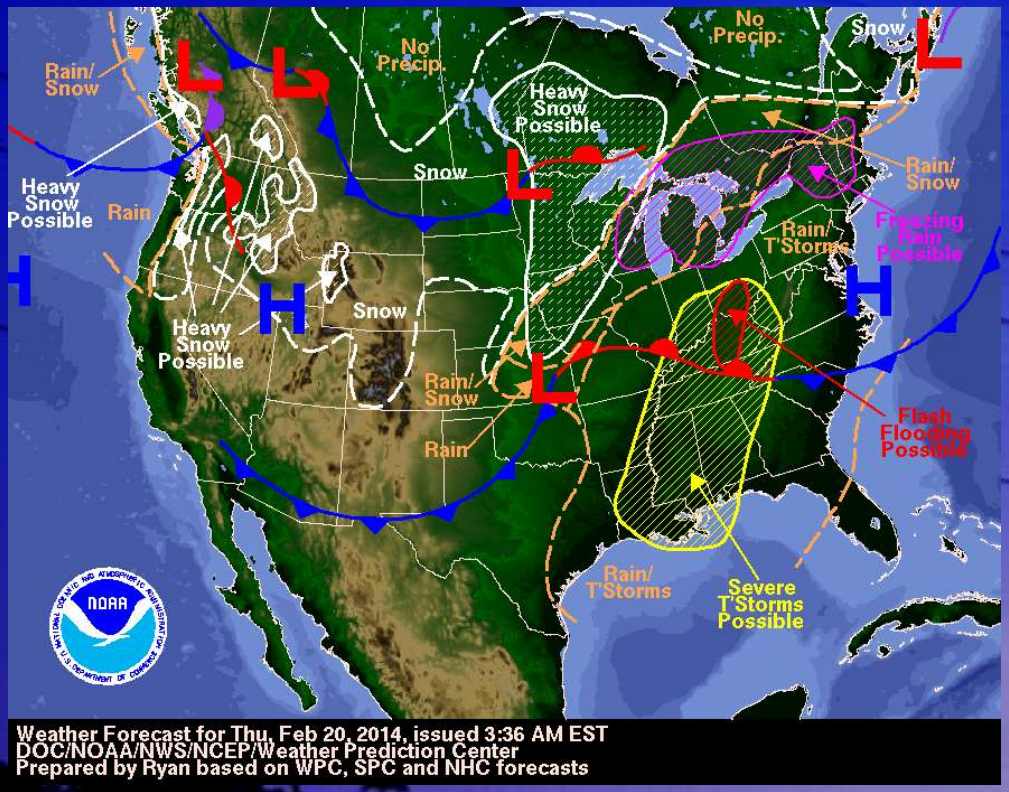
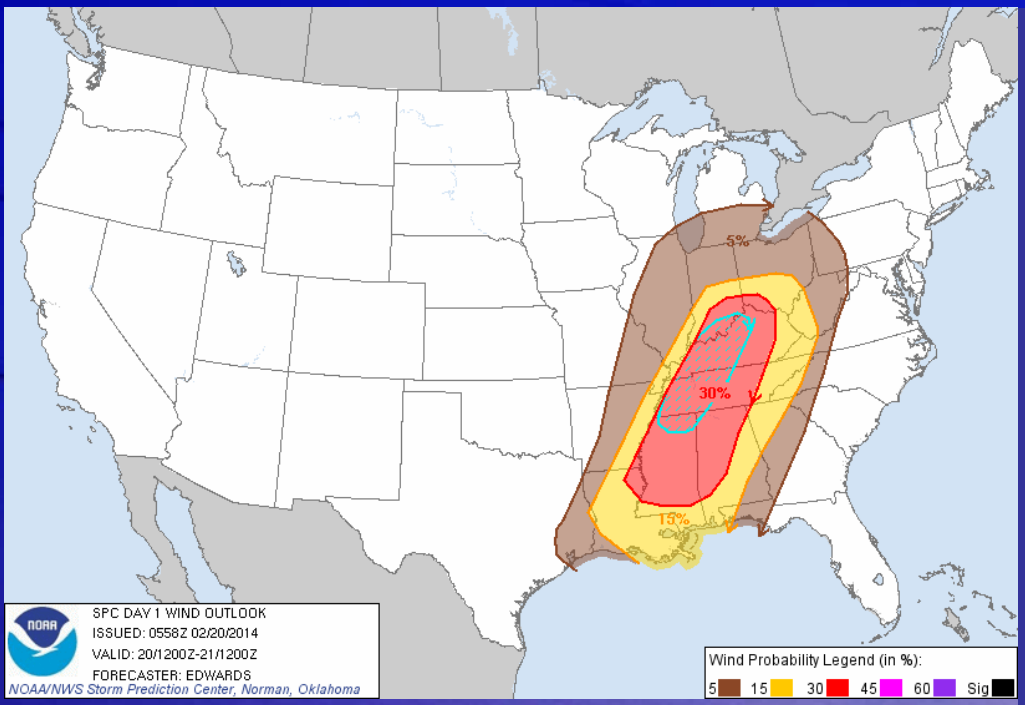
Forecast



- A warm front moved north across the area this morning.
- A strong cold front will move through this evening bringing strong to severe thunderstorms.
- Ahead of the storms winds will become gusty through the afternoon hours.

Severe Weather Outlook



Storm Prediction Center Wind Outlook– Thursday
Issued 1258 AM EST Wed February 19, 2012

- The Storm Prediction Center has placed southern Indiana & central Kentucky in a slight risk of severe weather for today.
- Primary threats:
  - Damaging winds
  - Isolated tornadoes
- Highest threat of severe weather will be between 4PM EST today and 12 AM EST Friday in the blue hatched area on the graphic.

Expected Impacts

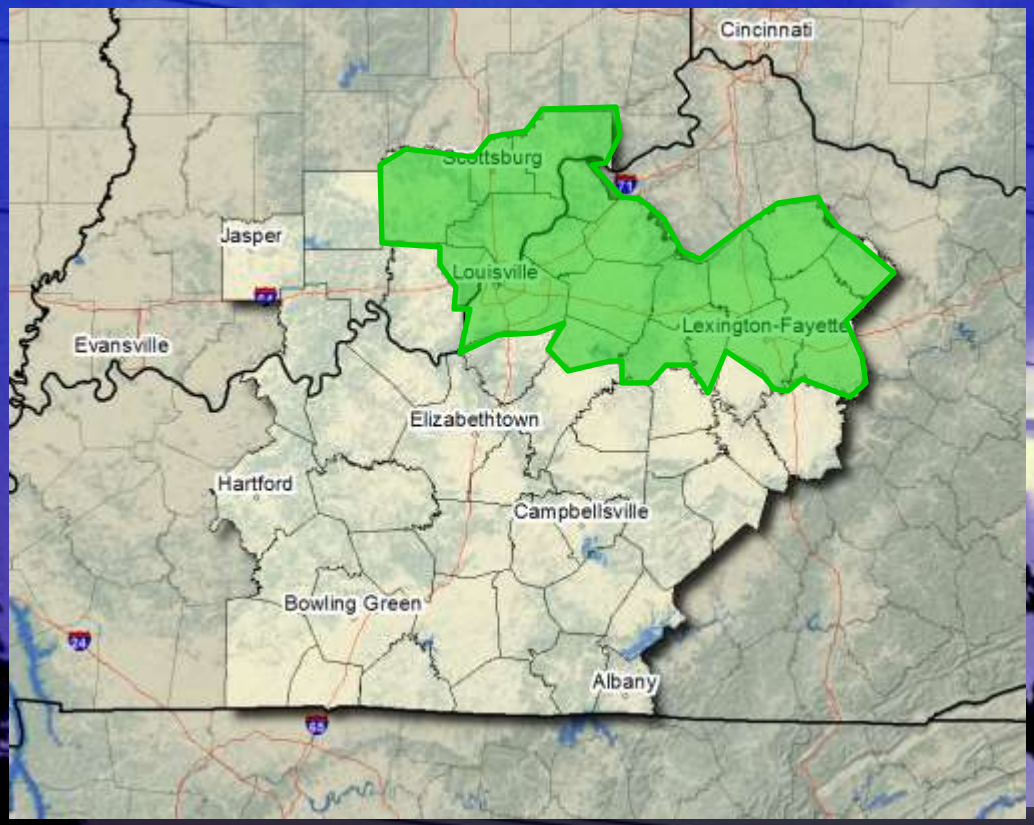
Wind: Damaging winds in excess of 60 MPH within a squall line are *LIKELY* this evening. In addition, the combination of tree damage from recent icing events and the recent snowmelt has led to very soggy ground. Therefore, *the high wind threat with the squall line may result in higher than normal numbers of trees and branches coming down.* Gradient winds outside of thunderstorms will be strong today. Sustained winds of 20 to 30 MPH with gusts up to 50 MPH will be possible. A Wind Advisory is in effect from 10 AM EST today to 1 AM EST Friday.

Tornadoes: Isolated tornadoes embedded within the squall line will be possible late this afternoon and evening.

Hail: Large hail is not expected, though some small hail may occur over central Kentucky this afternoon and evening.

Expected Impacts

Flooding: Rainfall amounts of one to as much as two inches will be possible. *This rainfall combined with the recent snow melt may result in localized flash flooding in some areas.* A Flash Flood Watch is in effect from 4 PM today -1 AM EST Friday for the area highlighted below.



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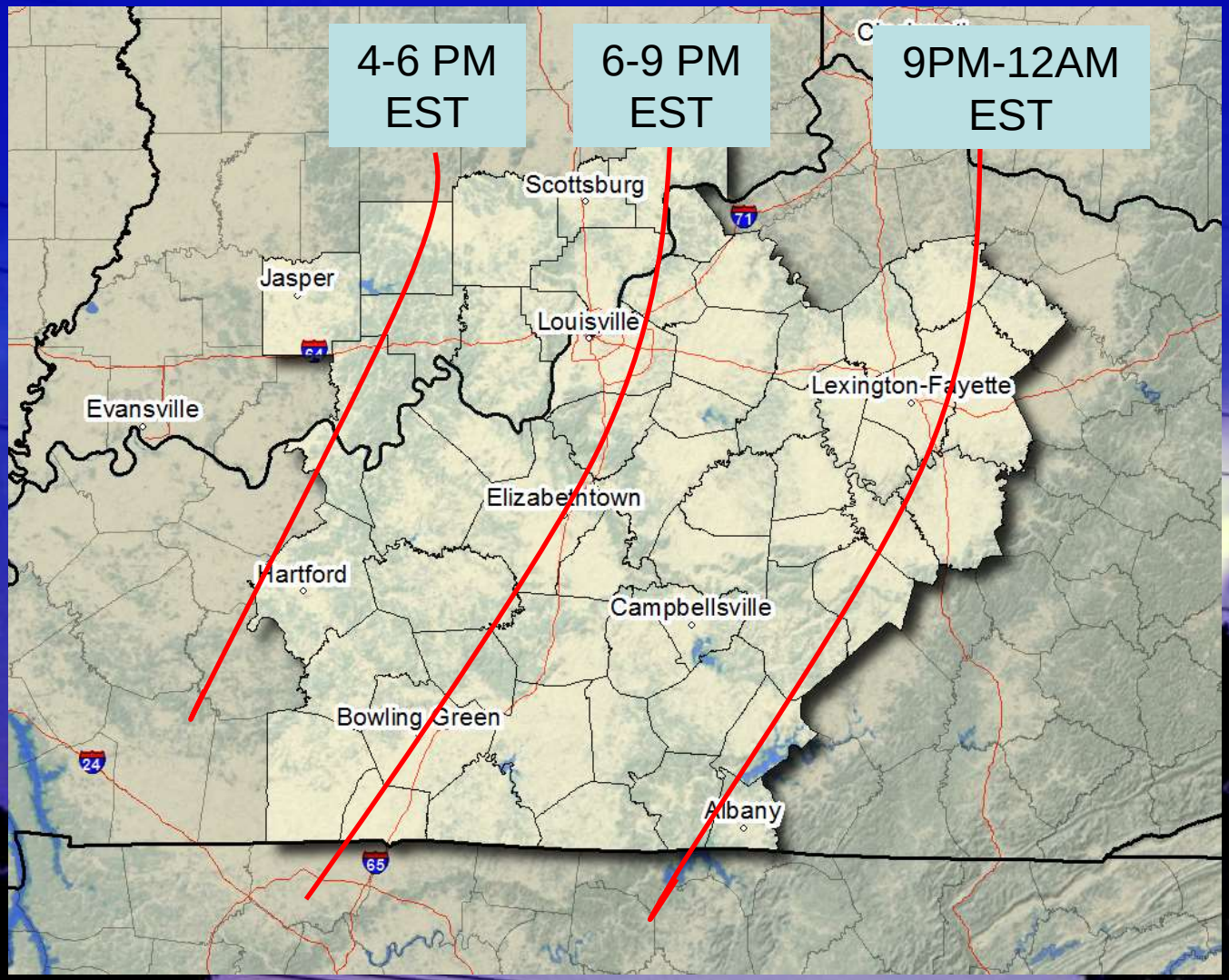
Timing for Severe Storms



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Summary

- Strong to severe thunderstorms this afternoon and evening.
- Highest threat is damaging winds in excess of 60 MPH. Isolated tornadoes are possible as well.
- Recent tree damage due to icing events and soggy ground from recent snowmelt may result in a higher than normal number of trees and limbs coming down due to expected high winds.
- Localized flash flooding is possible due to the expected rainfall and saturated ground conditions.
- Gusty winds can be expected this afternoon ahead of the storms.