

Winter Weather Webinar for School Administrators/Others

December 10, 2012

Audio: Dial: 866-440-7702

Access Code: 8162683154

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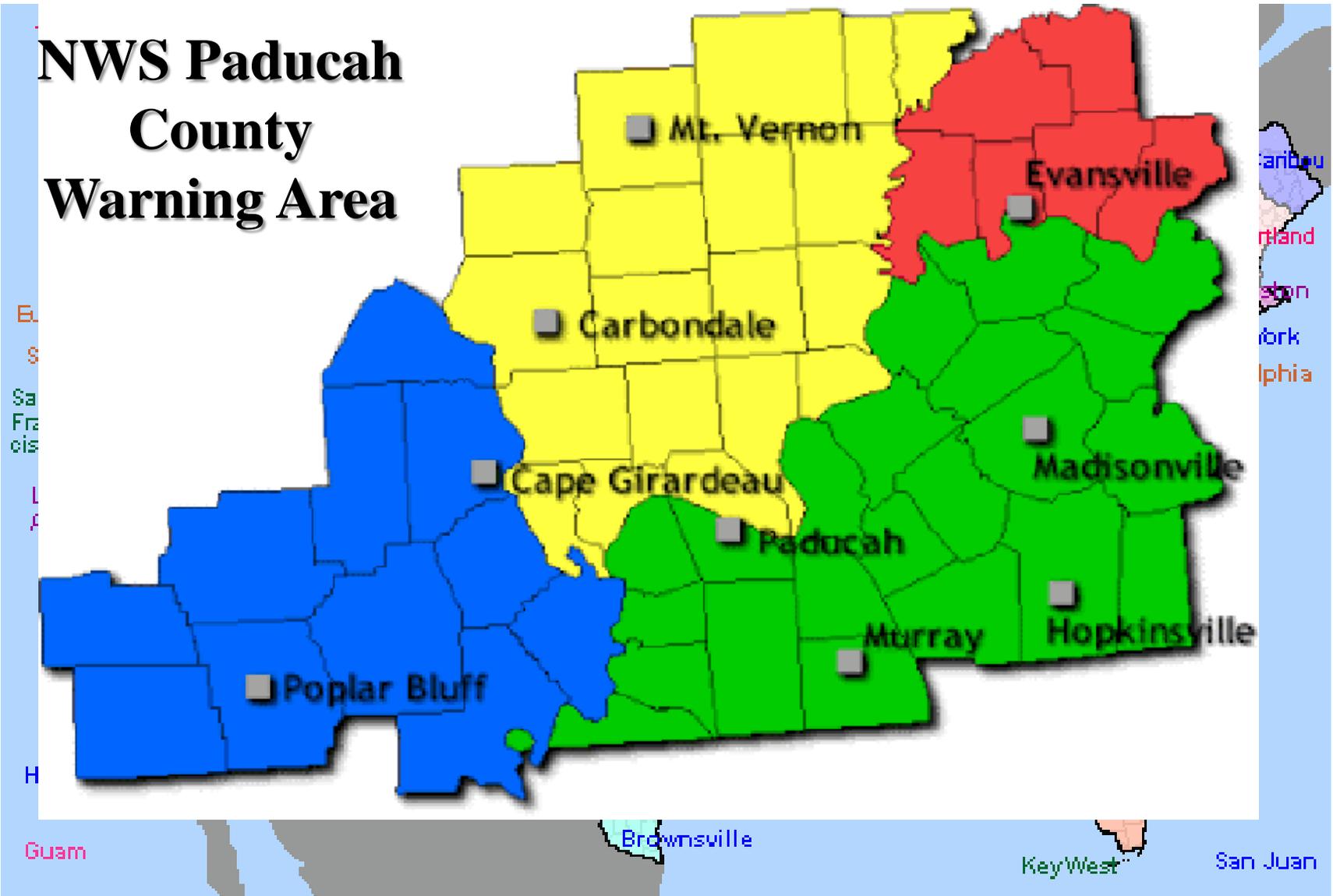
pat.spoden@noaa.gov

Winter Weather Webinar for School Administrators

- Winter Weather Climatology for our Region
- Watches, Warnings, Advisories & Definitions
- Pointers for Staying Abreast of the Very Latest Weather & Impacts
 1. Where to Access
 2. How to Interpret
- Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Considerations
- The Challenges of Forecasting Wintry Precipitation
- The Winter Outlook

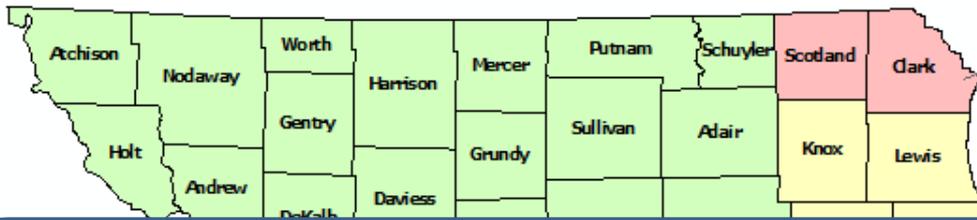
Your National Weather Service!

NWS Paducah County Warning Area



Your National Weather Service!

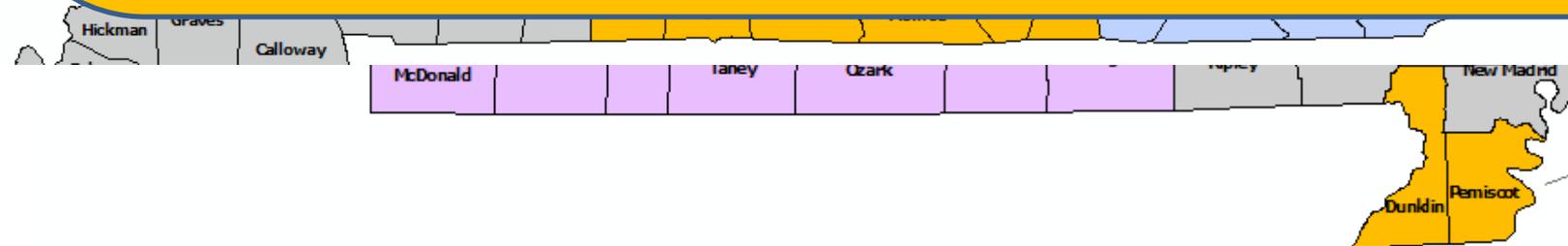




Donna Dubberke
Davenport, IA
563-386-3976
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Any other area...

<http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm>



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What's going on with this fruity weather?

- ✓ Record 24-hour Snowfall: Dec. 22, 2004
- ✓ Record Wet January – 2005 (Evansville)
- ✓ Record Wet Sept.- 2006 (Paducah)
- ✓ Evansville Flash Flood (9/12/06)
- ✓ Record 24-hour Rainfall: March 18, 2008 (Cape Girardeau)
- ✓ Historic Ice Storm: Jan. 27, 2009
- ✓ Record Wet Oct, 2009 (Paducah)
- ✓ Record Drought/Heat: Summer/Fall 2010
- ✓ Record Rainfall and Flooding: Spring 2011
- ✓ Record Tornadoes in 2011
- ✓ Record Tornadoes for Winter Season: 2012
- ✓ Record Drought and Heat: 2012

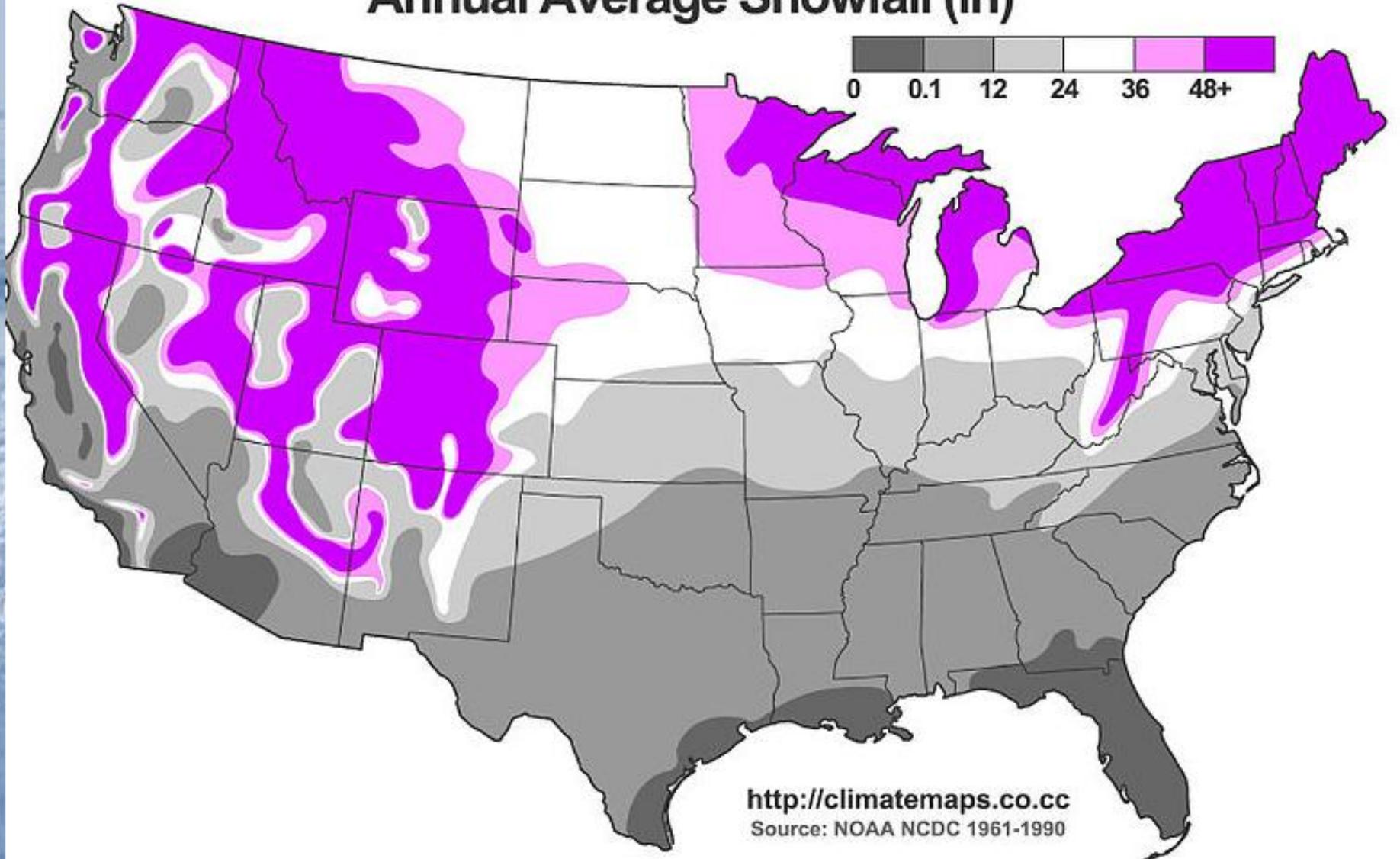
Winter Weather Climatology for our Region

- Snowfall
- Ice Storms
- Blizzards
- Extreme Cold
- Severe Thunderstorms
- Flash Floods



Winter Weather Climatology

Annual Average Snowfall (in)



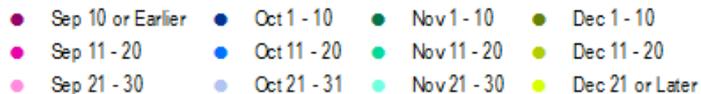
Winter Weather Climatology

Snowfall

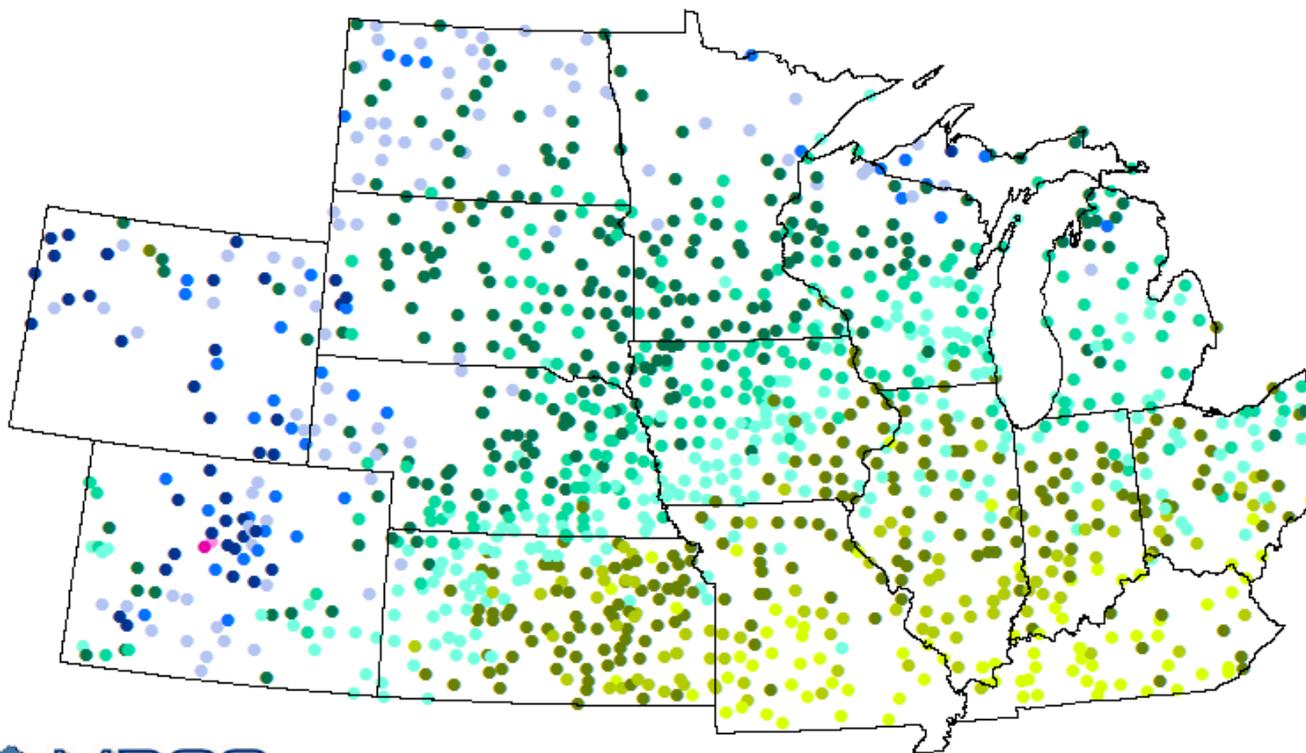
First Measureable Snow

From the years 1981-2010 only

Median Date Of First Measureable Snow



Median date is determined such that half of all years fall before and half fall after the median date.



Winter Weather Climatology

Snowfall

Evansville, Indiana:

Average seasonal snowfall: 14.2 inches

Snowiest winter: 37.9 inches (1969-70)

Paducah (since 1952):

Average seasonal snowfall: 10.2 inches

Snowiest winter: 35.7 inches (1977-78)

Marion, IL:

Average seasonal snowfall: 17.4 inches

Snowiest winter: 57.1 inches (1978-79)

Cape Girardeau, MO:

Average seasonal snowfall: 13.1 inches

Snowiest winter: 44.8 inches (1978-79)

Winter Weather Climatology - Ice

Ice Storms



HISTORIC ICE STORM OF 2009 JANUARY 26-28



Locally 1.5 to 2"
Catastrophic icing

NWS PADUCAH, KY

Winter Weather Climatology - Ice

Ice Storms – Frequency

- Our Region - Average of 1 to 2 days per year with Freezing Rain
- Four “Ice Storms” in the Last Decade
 1. Jan. 25, 2004: ½” ice - SW IN and S IL
 2. Feb. 11, 2008: ¼ to ½” ice
 3. Jan. 26-28, 2009: ½ to 1 ½” ice – SE MO, W KY, Far S IL
 4. Dec. 15-16, 2010: ¼” ice - SW IN, S IL



Winter Weather Climatology - Ice

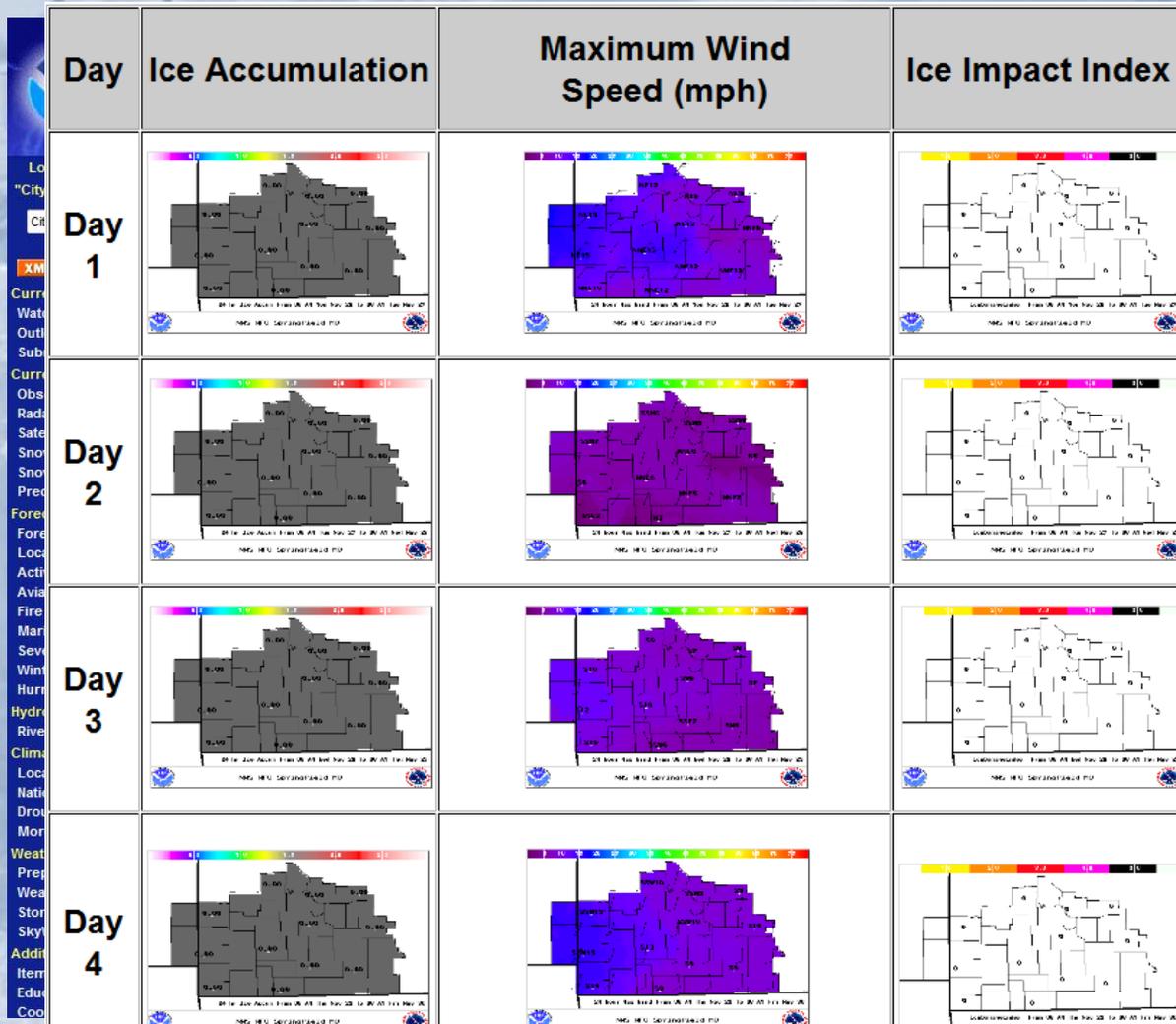
The Scaled Predictive Ice Storm Aftermath Index (SPIA)

Ice Index Parameters			
Index	Radial Ice Accumulation (Inches)	Wind (mph)	Damage and Impact Descriptions
1	0.10 – 0.25	15 – 25	Some local utility interruptions possible...typically lasting a few hours.
	0.25 – 0.50	> 15	
2	0.10 – 0.25	25 – 35	Scattered utility interruptions possible...typically lasting less than 12 hours.
	0.25 – 0.50	15 – 25	
	0.50 – 0.75	< 15	
3	0.10 – 0.25	≥ 35	Numerous utility interruptions possible...lasting up to 5 days. Damage to some main feeder lines possible.
	0.25 – 0.50	25 – 35	
	0.50 – 0.75	15 – 25	
	0.75 – 1.00	< 15	
4	0.25 – 0.50	≥ 35	Prolonged and widespread utility interruptions possible. Damage to many main feeder lines possible. Utility outages lasting up to 10 days possible.
	0.50 – 0.75	25 – 35	
	0.75 – 1.00	15 – 25	
	1.00 – 1.50	< 15	
5	0.50 – 0.75	≥ 35	Catastrophic damage to exposed utility systems possible. Outages lasting several weeks possible in some areas.
	0.75 – 1.00	≥ 25	
	1.00 – 1.50	≥ 15	
	> 1.50	Any	

The Damage and Impact Descriptions are based upon: (1) researched weather parameters and utility impacts and (2) the combination of **forecast** parameters including radial ice accumulation, wind and temperatures.

Winter Weather Climatology

How can I get this info?



Winter Weather Climatology

Blizzards – Frequency



Blizzard Definition - Sustained wind or frequent gusts greater than or equal to 35 mph accompanied by falling and/or blowing snow, frequently reducing visibility to less than 1/4 mile for three hours or more.

Past Blizzards: 1977-1978
1996 (SW IN to eastern Pennyrille)



Winter Weather Climatology

Extreme Cold

Annual Days with Temps Below Zero:

Mt. Vernon IL: 5.2

Poplar Bluff, MO: 1.3

Hopkinsville, KY : 1.9

Owensboro, KY: 2.6

Princeton, IN: 3.5

Winter Weather Climatology

Severe Thunderstorms

Severe Thunderstorm Definition – a thunderstorm which produces winds of at least 58 mph and/or hail at least 1 inch in diameter.

39.1 avg. occurrences/year over past 10 winters
(Nov. – Mar)

Max = 153 Winter of 2005-2006

Min = 1 Winter of 2009-2010



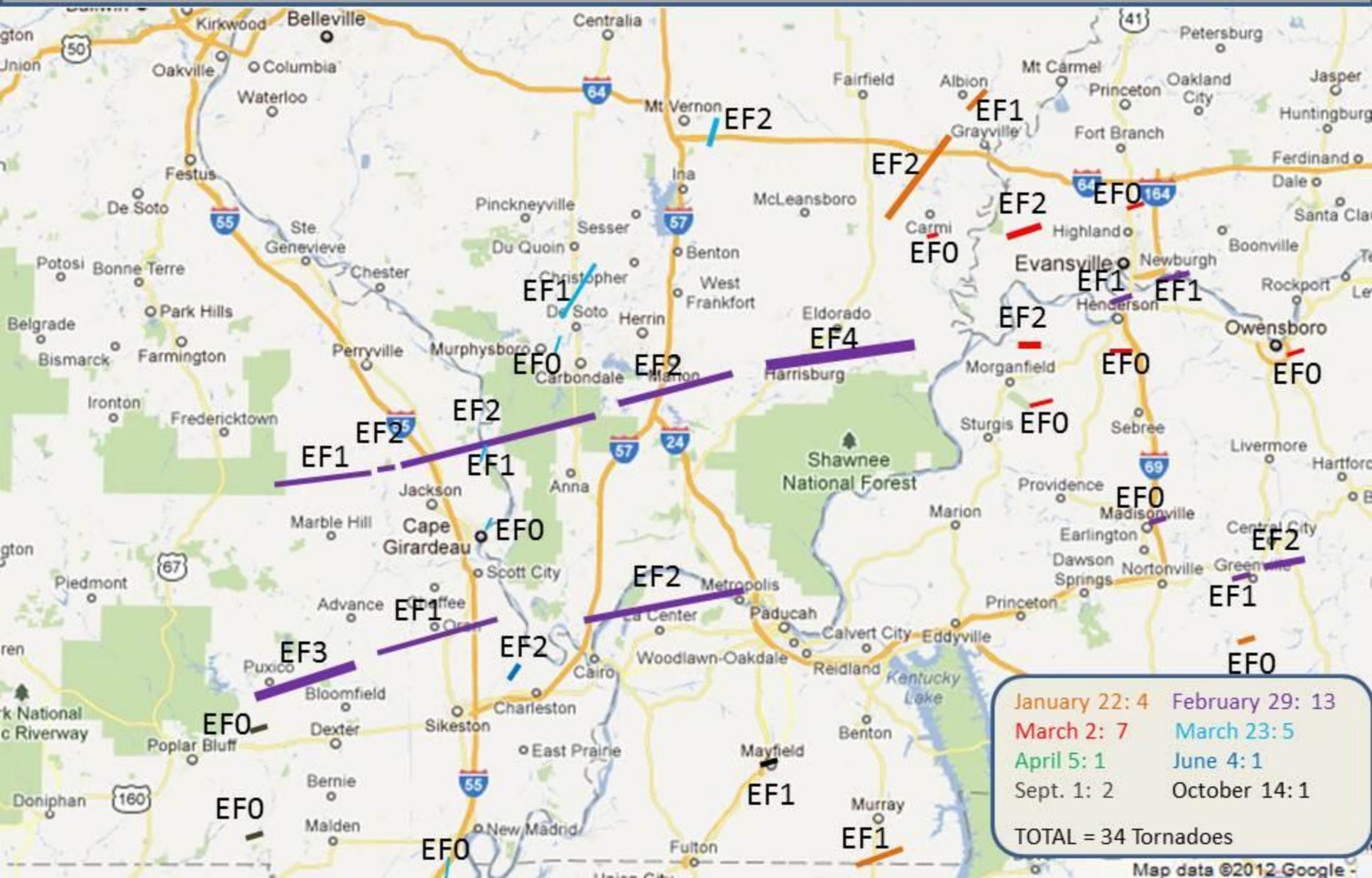
Winter Weather Climatology

Tornadoes

- 10.8 “cool season” tornadoes per year since 2002-2003
- Annual avg. = 24



2012 Tornadoes WFO Paducah, KY



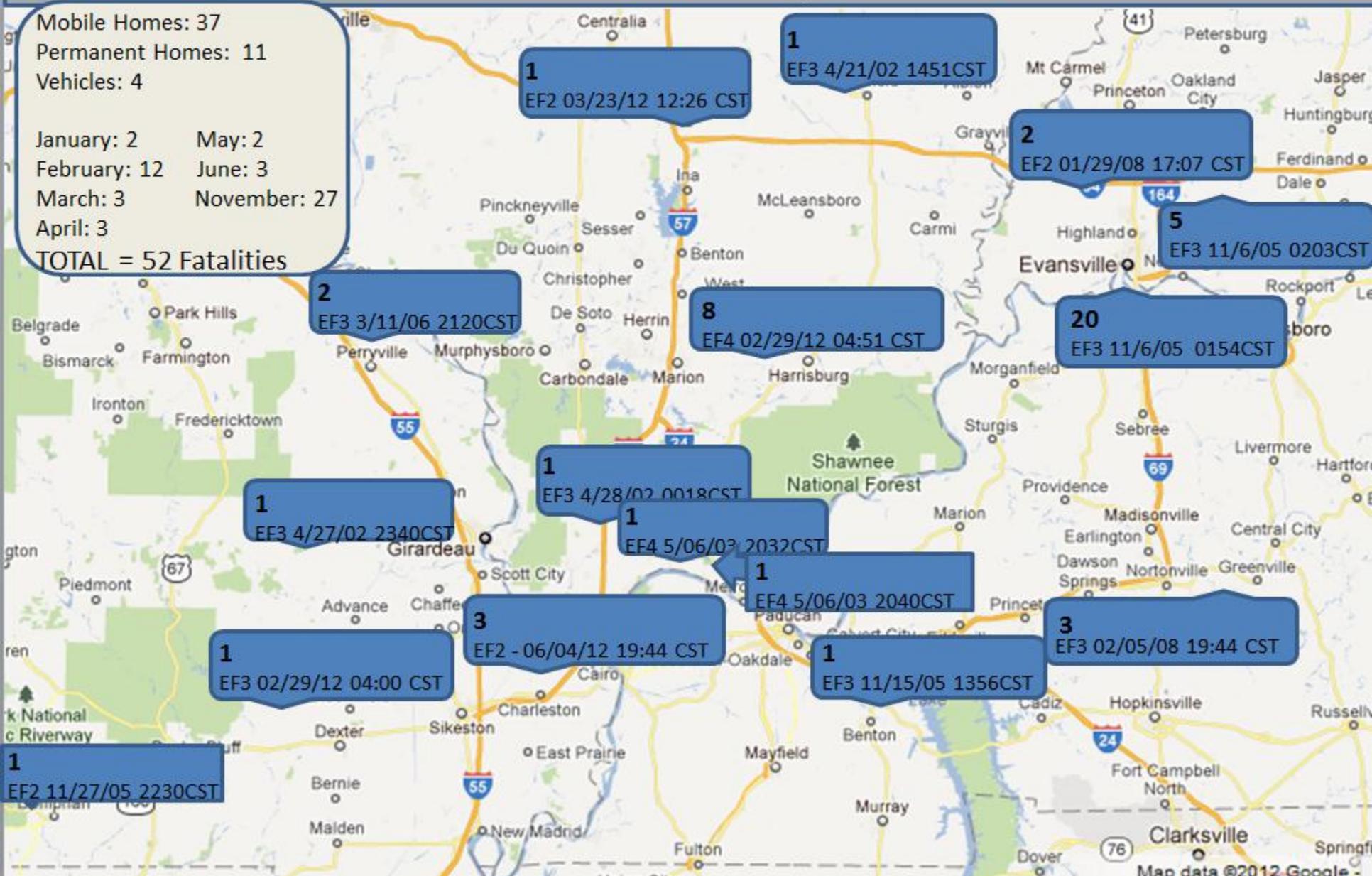
Tornado Fatalities 1996-2012

WFO Paducah, KY

Mobile Homes: 37
Permanent Homes: 11
Vehicles: 4

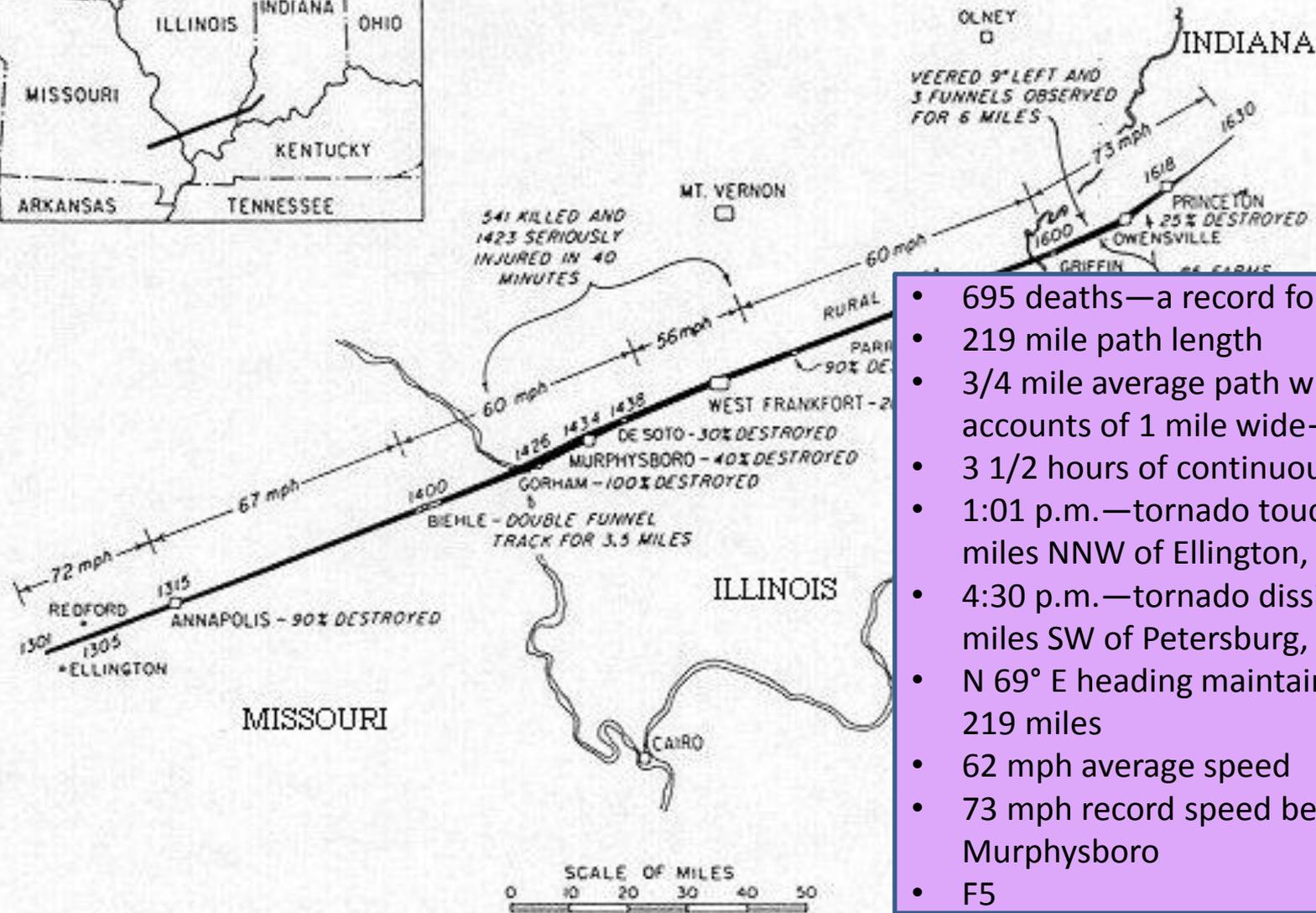
January: 2 May: 2
February: 12 June: 3
March: 3 November: 27
April: 3

TOTAL = 52 Fatalities



March 18, 1925 Tri-State Tornado

NOTE: PERCENTAGE DESTROYED REFERS TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDINGS AND HOMES IN THE COMMUNITY



- 695 deaths—a record for a single tornado
- 219 mile path length
- 3/4 mile average path width (some accounts of 1 mile wide—a record width)
- 3 1/2 hours of continuous devastation
- 1:01 p.m.—tornado touched down 3 miles NNW of Ellington, Missouri
- 4:30 p.m.—tornado dissipated about 3 miles SW of Petersburg, Indiana
- N 69° E heading maintained for 183 of the 219 miles
- 62 mph average speed
- 73 mph record speed between Gorham & Murphysboro
- F5

Winter Weather Climatology

Flash Floods



11.9 avg. events per winter since 2002-2003

Max 66 winter 2005-2006

Min 1 winter 2007-2008



Watches, Warning & Advisories

Winter Definitions



- Heavy Snow – 4 or more inches in the north and 6 or more inches in 24 hours in the south
- Ice Storm – 1/4 inch or more of ice accumulation
- Winter Storm – 1/4 inch or more of snow or ice accumulation

Lesser amounts (threshold criteria) to our south and greater amounts to our north.

simulation
meeting at least one of the

Watches, Warning & Advisories

Plain Language Definitions

- Winter Storm Watch – conditions are favorable for a winter storm event. Issued at least 36 hours before the event.
- Winter Storm Warning – a winter storm event is occurring, imminent, or has a high probability of occurrence within about 36 hours.
- Advisory – winter events below the “winter storm” thresholds but meeting advisory criteria.

Watches, Warning & Advisories

Advisory Thresholds



- Snow – 2 or more inches in 12 hours. Consideration is given for impact and/or the first event of the season.
- Freezing Rain/Sleet – amounts that create hazardous conditions.

Watches, Warning & Advisories

What do they really mean?

- Watch – 50% likelihood of occurrence
- Warning – 80% likelihood of occurrence
- Advisory – 80% likelihood of occurrence

Outlook – 30% chance of occurrence

Watches, Warning & Advisories

Types of Watches/Warnings

- Winter Storm (Watch & Warning) – 1 or more winter storm criteria.
- Blizzard (Watch & Warning) – winds at least 35 mph and heavy snow causing visibilities of $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or less for at least 3 hours.
- Ice Storm Warning – ice accumulations of at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in 12 hours.
- Wind Chill Warning - wind chill temperatures at or below minus 25 deg. F.

Watches, Warning & Advisories

Types of Advisories

- Winter Weather Advisory – winter events below the “winter storm” thresholds but meeting advisory criteria.
- Freezing Rain Advisory - less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of ice accumulation but enough for hazardous conditions.
- Wind Chill Advisory - wind chill temperatures at or below minus 10 deg. F. to minus 24 deg. F.

Staying Abreast of the Very Latest Weather & Impacts

Where to Access the Information

- NWS Websites
- Commercial Websites
- Current Weather Observations
- Webcams
- DOT Web Sites



Local forecast by
"City, St" or ZIP code

[Location Help](#)

Snow Over Northern Rockies Moves Eastward into Weekend

The system bringing heavy snow to the northern Rockies will shift eastward on Friday, bringing 2-4 inches of snow to parts of the northern Plains. Meanwhile, another system moving onshore over the Pacific Northwest will bring coastal rain and mountain snow to that region, as well as snow to the northern Rockies on Friday and the central Rockies and northern Plains and Midwest into Saturday.

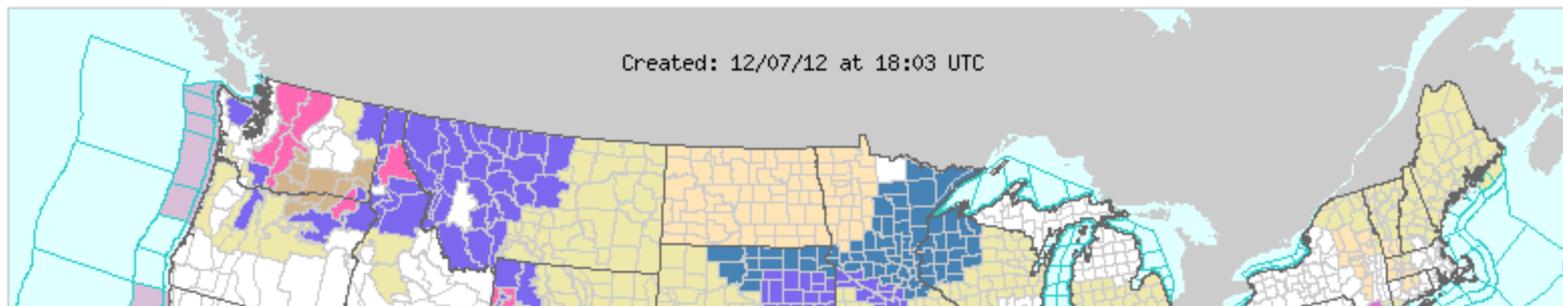
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www.weather.gov

Staying Abreast of the Very Latest Weather & Impacts

NWS Websites - WFO Paducah

National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office
Paducah, KY

Home Site Map News Organization Search for: [] NWS All NOAA Go

Top News of the Day

- Tornadoes during the winter are not unusual in our area
- A look at the historical probabilities of a white Christmas and past Christmas weather
- Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon

Watches & Warnings Observations Forecast Graphics Rivers & Lakes Climate Local Overview

Click on the map below for the latest forecast.

Read watches, warnings & advisories Zoom Out Hazardous Weather Outlook

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weather.gov/paducah

FORECAST-AT-A-GLANCE

Paducah				
This Afternoon	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
50% Chance Showers	50% Chance Showers	50% Chance Showers	60% Showers Likely	70% Showers Likely

Quad State Outlook

Friday Night	
Fog	Low
Lightning	Low



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- [New weather observing stations added in western Kentucky, with more planned](#)
- [Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late - Create a Disaster Kit Now](#)

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Click on the map below for the latest forecast.



Last map update: Wed, Jan. 13, 2010 at 9:29:51 am CST



FORECAST AT A GLANCE

PADUCAH

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night
Hi 43 °F Lo 26 °F	Hi 47 °F Lo 32 °F				

EVANSVILLE

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night
Hi 35 °F Lo 25 °F	Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F

CAPE GIRARDEAU

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night
Hi 41 °F Lo 25 °F	Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F	Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F

Quad State Outlook
No current hazards through Thursday.
[Click for risk level information.](#)

Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code
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A Place for New Discoveries

NOAA's world-class Center for Weather and Climate Prediction has officially opened at the University of Maryland in College Park. Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank, U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and other federal and state officials gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to announce the new programs and collaborations the facility will support.
[Read More...](#)

3 MILES WSW PATOKA IN

En Español



Mostly Cloudy
64°F
18°C

Humidity 64%
Wind Speed S 14 G 22 mph
Barometer 29.69 in
Dewpoint 52°F (11°C)
Visibility 10.00 mi
Last Update on 17 Oct 8:15 am CST

Current conditions at
Mount Carmel Municipal Airport (KAJG)
Lat: 38.61 Lon: -87.73 Elev. 430ft.

[More Local Wx](#) | [3 Day History](#) | [Mobile Weather](#)
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TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY	SATURDAY NIGHT	SUNDAY
30% Thunderstorms High: 74 °F	100% Thunderstorms Low: 48 °F	10% Slight Chc Showers High: 62 °F	20% Slight Chc Showers Low: 45 °F	30% Chance Showers High: 57 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 42 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 62 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 47 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 71 °F

HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

NWS Paducah, KY
Point Forecast: 3 Miles WSW Patoka IN
38.37°N 87.64°W
10:11 am CDT Oct 17, 2012
Forecast Valid: 11am CDT Oct 17, 2012-6pm CDT Oct 23, 2012
[Forecast Discussion](#)
[KML](#) [XML](#)

7-DAY FORECAST

Today	A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 3pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74. Breezy, with a south wind 16 to 21 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph.
Tonight	Showers and thunderstorms before 4am, then a slight chance of showers. Low around 48. South wind 11 to 18 mph becoming west after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 26 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%.
Thursday	A 10 percent chance of showers before 7am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. Breezy, with a southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 16 to 21 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 31 mph.

Click Map for Forecast [Disclaimer](#)

ADDITIONAL FORECASTS AND INFORMATION

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CURRENT CONDITIONS

LOCATION	TIME[cat]	WEATHER	TEMP	DEW
Cape Girardeau, MO	08:53	Fair	27°F	22°
Carbondale, IL	08:52	Fair	29°F	22°
Evansville, IN	08:54	Fog/Mist	25°F	22°
Mount Carmel, IL	09:06	Fair	26°F	26°
Mount Vernon, IL	09:16	Fair	27°F	21°
Owensboro, KY	08:56	Fog/Mist	24°F	21°
Paducah, KY	08:53	Fair	28°F	21°
Poplar Bluff, MO	08:53	Fair	28°F	22°

CLICK ON LOCATION FOR THREE DAYS OF OBSERVATIONS

Area Forecast Discussion:

Tells you what the forecasters are thinking

Key Scheduled Updates: By about 4 AM/PM



AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PADUCAH KY
237 PM CDT TUE MAR 27 2012

.SHORT TERM... (THIS EVENING THROUGH FRIDAY)
ISSUED AT 237 PM CDT TUE MAR 27 2012

FRONTAL BOUNDARY WILL SETTLE SOUTH INTO THE REGION WEDNESDAY. THERE IS A SLIGHT CHANCE OF CONVECTION OVER THE NORTHERN 1/3 OF THE AREA LATE TONIGHT (MAINLY SRN IL / SW IN). CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SECTIONS SHOULD REMAIN DRY TONIGHT. CHANCES WILL SHIFT SOUTH WEDNESDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY NIGHT. GIVEN MARGINAL MOISTURE FORECAST...COVERAGE SHOULD BE SCATTERED. NOT TOO EXCITED ABOUT STRONG CONVECTION EITHER. CANNOT RULE IT OUT ENTIRELY. DRIER AIR WILL QUICKLY MOVE INTO THE EVANSVILLE TRI STATE REGION BY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT...SO CHANCES OF CONVECTION WILL END...TIL THURSDAY NIGHT WHEN THE BOUNDARY SHIFTS BACK NORTH AS A WARM FRONT THROUGH FRIDAY. CHANCES OF CONVECTION WILL PERSIST WEDNESDAY NIGHT THROUGH THURSDAY OVER PORTIONS OF SOUTHWEST KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEAST MISSOURI. TEMPERATURES WILL REMAIN ABOVE NORMAL.

LONG TERM (FRIDAY THROUGH MONDAY)

SHIELD AHEAD OF THIS SHORTWAVE IS MOVE NEAR CIRCUMPOLE SYSTEM SPEED /15 KNOTS/...SO THE EASTWARD TRANSLATION OF THE PRECIPITATION WILL TAKE 6-12 HOURS TO TRANSVERSE THROUGH THE FORECAST AREA.

LOW AMPLITUDE RIDGING WILL DOMINATE THE WFO PAH CWA ON SUNDAY...MINIMIZING ANY PRECIPITATION THROUGH SUNDAY NIGHT. BEYOND SUNDAY...THERE IS SOME VARIATION IN THE PLACEMENT AND STRENGTH OF THE NEXT SHORTWAVE MONDAY INTO TUESDAY. FOR NOW...A SMALL CHANCE FOR PRECIPITATION HAS BEEN KEPT IN THE EXISTING FORECAST FOR MONDAY...THEN AGAIN FOR WEDNESDAY. GIVEN THE LOW AMPLITUDE AND ZONAL NATURE OF THE WESTERLIES DURING THIS TIME PERIOD...EXPECT SOME WIDE VARIABILITY IN THE FORECAST FOR EARLY NEXT WEEK.



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[Forecast Discussion](#)

[KML](#) [XML](#)

Click Map for Forecast

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CLICK ON LOCATION FOR THREE DAYS

Paducah, KY

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Point Forecast: 3 Miles SSW Cobden IL
37.5N 89.27W

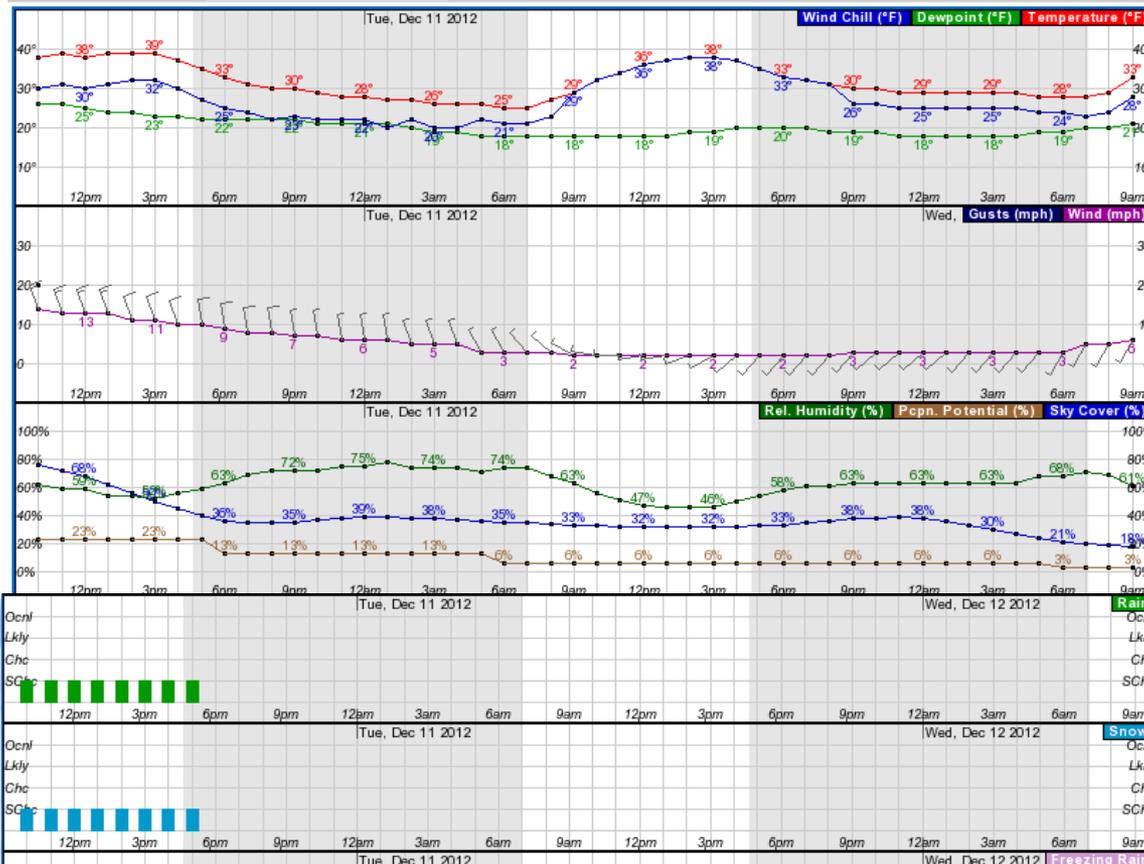
Last Update: 1:45 pm CST Dec 7, 2012

Hourly Weather Forecast Graph

[\[dashes/dots\]](#) | [\[b/w\]](#) | [\[hide menu\]](#)

Weather Elements	Weather/Precipitation	Probabilistic Forecasts (Experimental)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temperature (°F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dewpoint (°F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wind Chill (°F)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thunder <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snow <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Freezing Rain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sleet	Quantitative Precipitation 6-hr <input type="text" value="info"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 0.10 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.25 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.50 <input type="checkbox"/> 1.00 Snowfall 6-hr <input type="text" value="info"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 0.1in <input type="checkbox"/> 1in <input type="checkbox"/> 3in <input type="checkbox"/> 6in <input type="checkbox"/> 12in
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Wind <input type="text" value="mph"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sky Coverage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Precipitation Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relative Humidity		

48-Hour Period Starting: 10am Mon, Dec 10 2012





Local forecast by "City, St" or Zip Code

City, St Go

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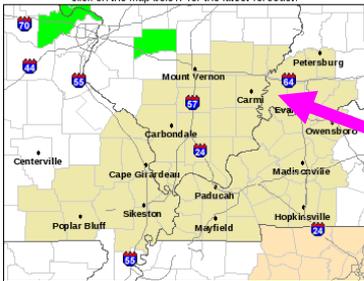
Feedback

Top News of the Day

- Prolonged cold air outbreak ends
- New weather observing stations added in western Kentucky, with more planned
- Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late - Create a Disaster Kit Now

Watches & Warnings Observations Forecast Graphics Rivers & Lakes Climate Local Overview

Click on the map below for the latest forecast.



Read watches, warnings & advisories

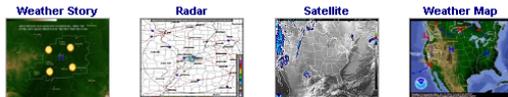
Zoom Out

Flood Warning

Special Weather Statement

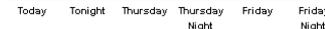
Hazardous Weather Outlook

Last map update: Wed, Jan. 13, 2010 at 9:29:51 am CST



FORECAST AT A GLANCE

Today Tonight Thursday Thursday Night Friday Friday Night



Hi 43 °F Lo 26 °F Hi 47 °F Lo 32 °F Hi 47 °F Lo 31 °F

Quad State Outlook

No current hazards through Thursday.

[Click for risk level information.](#)

EVANSVILLE



Hi 35 °F Lo 25 °F Hi 43 °F Lo 32 °F Hi 44 °F Lo 31 °F

CAPE GIRARDEAU



Hi 41 °F Lo 25 °F Hi 44 °F Lo 32 °F Hi 43 °F Lo 31 °F

CURRENT CONDITIONS

LOCATION	TIME[est]	WEATHER	TEMP	DEW
Cape Girardeau, MO	08:53	Fair	27°F	22°
Carbondale, IL	08:52	Fair	29°F	22°
Evansville, IN	08:54	Fog/Mist	26°F	22°
Mount Carmel, IL	09:06	Fair	26°F	26°
Mount Vernon, IL	09:16	Fair	27°F	21°
Owensboro, KY	08:56	Fog/Mist	24°F	21°
Paducah, KY	08:53	Fair	28°F	21°
Poplar Bluff, MO	08:53	Fair	28°F	22°

CLICK ON LOCATION FOR THREE DAYS

Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code

Enter location Go

[Location Help](#)

A Place for New Discoveries

NOAA's world-class Center for Weather and Climate Prediction has officially opened at the University of Maryland in College Park. Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank, U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco and other federal and state officials gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to announce the new programs and collaborations the facility will support. [Read More](#)

3 MILES WSW PATOKA IN

En Español



Mostly Cloudy

64°F

18°C

Humidity 64%

Wind Speed S 14 G 22 mph

Barometer 29.69 in

Dewpoint 52°F (11°C)

Visibility 10.00 mi

Last Update on 17 Oct 8:15 am CST

Current conditions at **Mount Carmel Municipal Airport (KAJG)**
Lat: 38.61 Lon: -87.73 Elev: 430ft.

[More Local WX](#) | [3 Day History](#) | [Mobile Weather](#)

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TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY	SATURDAY NIGHT	SUNDAY
Chance Thunderstorms High: 74 °F	Thunderstorms Low: 48 °F	Slight Chc Showers High: 62 °F	Slight Chc Showers Low: 45 °F	Chance Showers High: 57 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 42 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 62 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 47 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 71 °F

HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

7-DAY FORECAST

Today	A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 3pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74. Breezy, with a south wind 16 to 21 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph.
Tonight	Showers and thunderstorms before 4am, then a slight chance of showers. Low around 48. South wind 11 to 18 mph becoming west after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 26 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%.
Thursday	A 10 percent chance of showers before 7am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. Breezy, with a southwest wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 16 to 21 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 31 mph.

NWS Paducah, KY

Point Forecast: 3 Miles WSW Patoka IN
38.37°N 87.64°W

Last Update: 10:11 am CDT Oct 17, 2012

Forecast Valid: 11am CDT Oct 17, 2012-6pm CDT Oct 23, 2012

[Forecast Discussion](#)

[KML](#) [XML](#)

Click Map for Forecast [Disclaimer](#)

Map Satellite

ADDITIONAL FORECASTS AND INFORMATION

ZONE AREA FORECAST FOR CARTER COUNTY, MO

[Forecast Discussion](#)

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Severe Weather Summary Page

[Home](#)[Site Map](#)[News](#)[Organization](#)Search for: NWS All NOAA**Butler County (December 9, 2012 3:37pm CST)**[Text](#) | [Zoom Out](#)**Warning Polygons****Warnings & Follow-Up Statements**

Severe Thunderstorm Warning (#0445 issued at 3:30pm)
 Tornado Warning (#0088 issued at 3:16pm)
 Statement (issued at 3:33pm)
 Statement (issued at 3:33pm)

Other Products

Tornado Watch (#0677 - until December 9 9:00pm CST)
 Hazardous Weather Outlook

Radar**Local**[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)[Local Storm Reports](#)[Rivers & Lakes \(AHPS\)](#)[E-Spotter](#)[Office Home](#)**Regional-National**[Convective Outlooks](#)[Mesoscale Discussions](#)[Current Watches](#)[Storm Reports](#)[Excessive Rainfall](#)[Flood Outlook](#)[U.S. Hazards](#)[Weather Safety](#)[Quantitative Precipitation
Forecasts \(QPF\)](#)[Fire Weather](#)

NOAA's National Weather Service
www.crh.noaa.gov

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Severe Weather & Heavy Rain Forecast Center

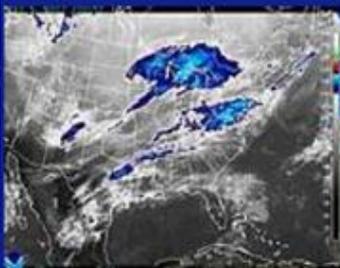
INWS Mobile

E-mail Alerts

Twitter

eSpotter

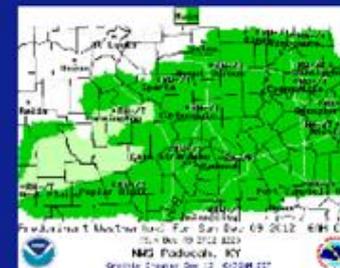
Satellite



SPC Day 1 Outlook - Convective Watches - National Radar



Graphical Forecast



Observations



Forecast Maps



Radar

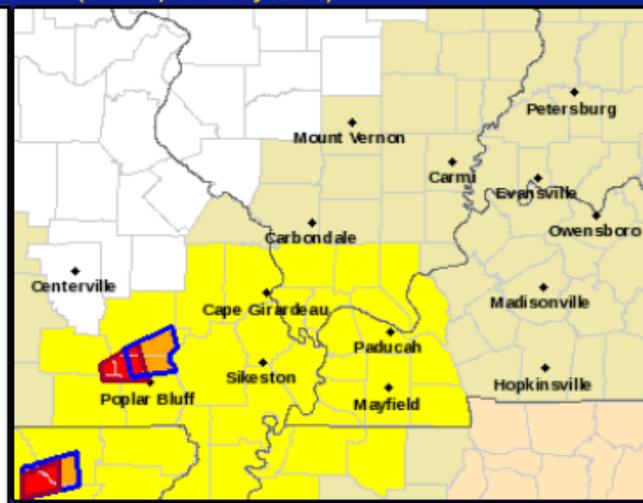
KPAH Paducah Base Reflectivity



Current Hazards

(Click map for county details)

- [Tornado Warning](#)
- [Severe Thunderstorm Warning](#)
- [Tornado Watch](#)
- [Severe Weather Statement](#)
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National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office
Paducah, KY

weather.gov

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Top News of the Day [Recently Issued: Public Information](#)

- Ham radio operators: Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat., Dec. 1
- Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon
- The winter outlook has been updated
- [Additional News Headlines](#)

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Hazardous Weather Outlook Short Term Forecast

Last map update: Mon, Nov. 26, 2012 at 2:24:36 pm CST

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- Hurricane Center

Hydrology

- Rivers & Lakes

Climate

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National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office

Paducah, KY



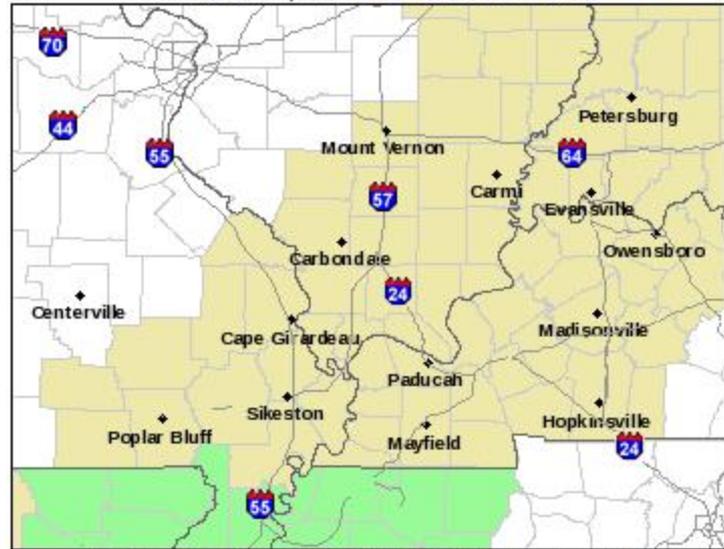
Home Site Map News Organization Search for: NWS All NOAA Go

Top News of the Day

- ☑ Ham radio operators: Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat., Dec. 1
- ☑ Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon
- ☑ The winter outlook has been updated
- ☑ [Additional News Headlines](#)

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Click on the map below for the latest forecast.



Last map update: Mon, Nov. 26, 2012 at 10:52:32 pm CST

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- Severe Weather**
- winter weather
- Hurricane Center
- Hydrology
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Storm Prediction Center

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City, St

UTC/GMT/Zulu Time
04:57:25

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- NWS Hazards Map
- Watch/Warning Map
- National RADAR
- Product Archive

Top News of the Day

Active Mesoscale Discussion: 2126

More news items below the overview graphic. Updated: 2012-11-27 04:53:04 UTC

Overview	Conv. Outlooks	Watches	MDs	Reports	Mesoanalysis	Fire	Hazards
----------	----------------	---------	------------	---------	--------------	------	---------

SPC Activity Chart
20121127/0454

National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
Norman, Oklahoma

Hazard	Mon (11/26)	Tue (11/27)	Wed (11/28)	Thu (11/29)	Fri (11/30)	Sat (12/01)	Sun (12/02)	Mon (12/03)
	Slight	No Severe	No Thunder	No Area				

National Weather Service • Since 1870



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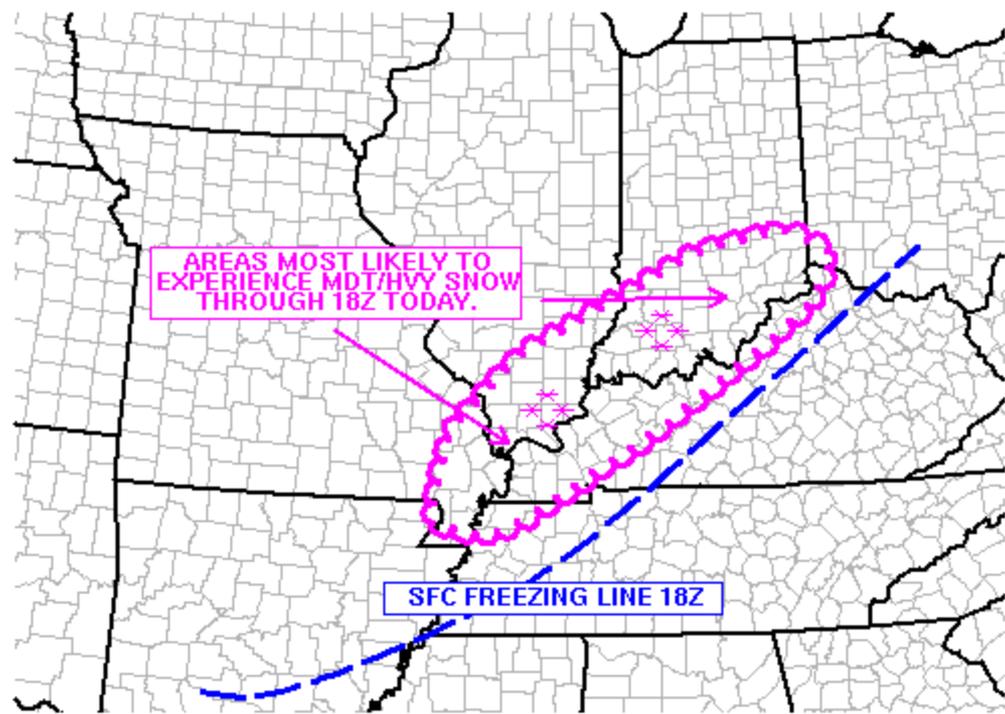
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Mesoscale Discussion 2560



SPC MCD #2560

MESOSCALE DISCUSSION 2560
 NWS STORM PREDICTION CENTER NORMAN OK
 0502 AM CST WED DEC 22 2004

AREAS AFFECTED...EXTREME SERN MO....SRN IL/IND...WRN KY

CONCERNING...HEAVY SNOW

VALID 221102Z - 221700Z

National Weather Service • Since 1870



National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office

Paducah, KY

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- Ham radio operators: Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat., Dec. 1
- Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon
- The winter outlook has been updated
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Forecast Graphics

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City, St

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- Fire Weather
- Marine Weather
- Severe Weather
- Winter Weather**

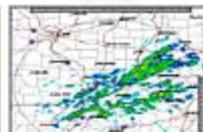
Hydrology

- Rivers & Lakes
- Climate

Weather Story



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Probability Maps: [Snow](#) [Freezing Rain](#) [Composite](#)

Other Products: [Surface Low Tracks](#) [Forecast Discussion](#)

[Winter Weather Impact Graphics](#)

NEW [Latest Storm Summary](#) (updated 1500Z 11/21/2012)

[View the official NWS 6-hour snow accumulation forecasts](#)

HPC Forecasts in GIS Format:

Day 1 = 12Z (6 AM CST/7 AM CDT) Today until 12Z Tomorrow

Days 4-8 Alaska
QPF
PQPF
Excessive
Rainfall
Flood Outlook
Winter Weather
Storm Summaries
Heat Index
Air Quality
Tropical Products
Daily Weather Map
GIS Products
Current Watches/
Warnings

Snowfall Probability Forecasts

The following charts depict the probability of snowfall reaching or exceeding 4, 8 and 12 inches. Click on a thumbnail to enlarge.

≥ 4 inches

≥ 8 inches

≥ 12 inches



Day 1

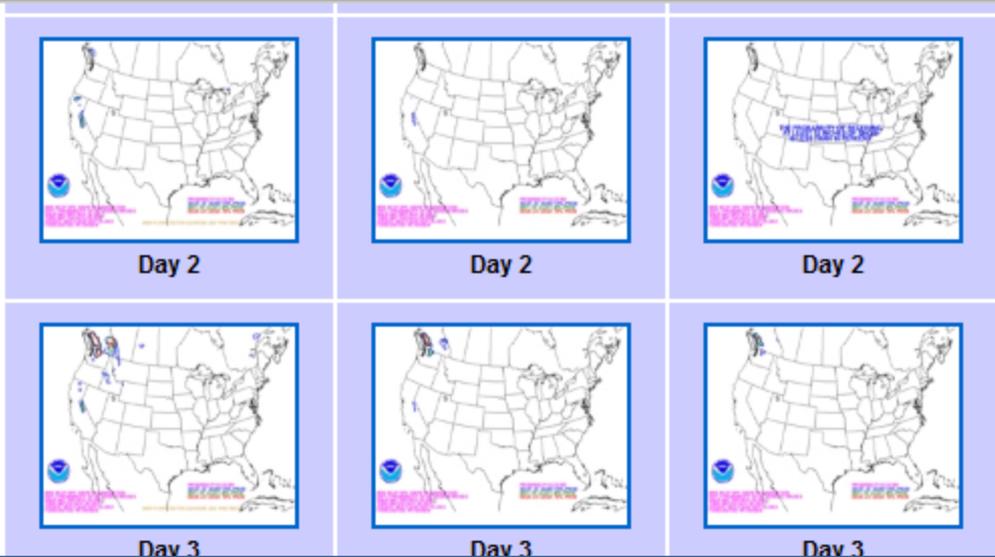


Day 1



Day 1

- Satellite and Radar Imagery
 - Satellite Images
 - National Radar
- Verification
 - HPC Verification
 - NPVU
 - Model Diagnostics
 - Event Reviews
- International Desks
- Development and Training
 - HPC HydroMet
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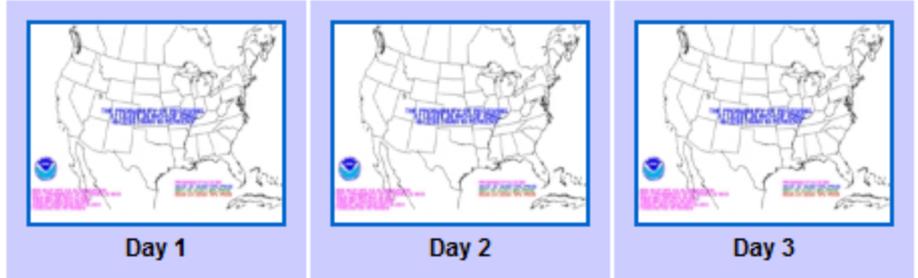


How Much Snow & Where?

Weather can be found at [SPC Mesoscale Discussion Link](#)

Freezing Rain Probability Forecasts

The following charts depict the probability of freezing rain reaching or exceeding .25 inch. Click on a thumbnail to enlarge.





Using Radar Data



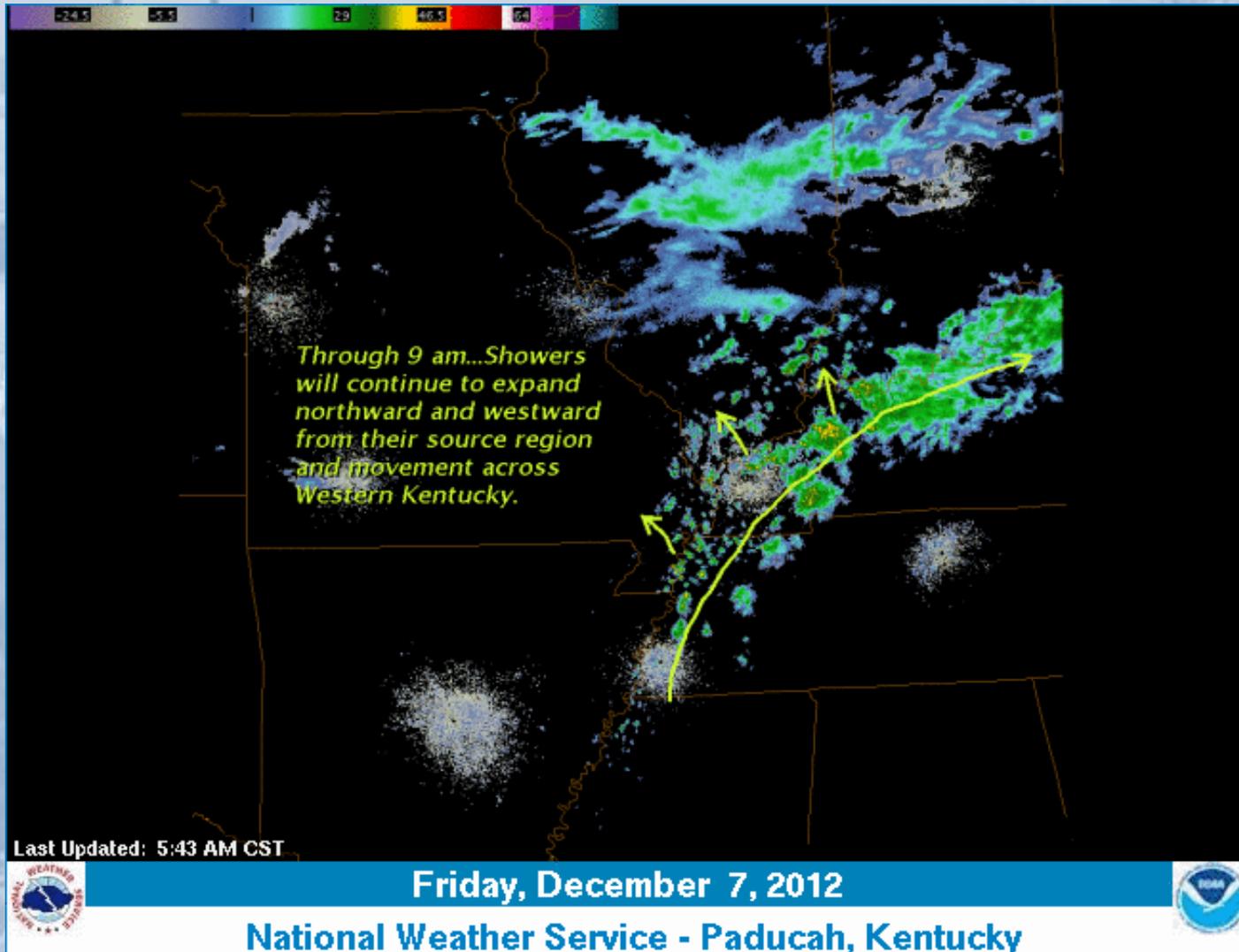
- Event Onset - Some of the precipitation may not be reaching the ground. Observations/Webcams will help.

CURRENT CONDITIONS								
LOCATION	TIME [est]	WEATHER	TEMP	DEWPT	HUMIDITY	WIND	PRESSURE	FEELS LIKE
Cape Girardeau, MO	06:53	Fair	28°F	21°F	75%	N 9 mph	30.39 in	19°F
Carbondale, IL	06:52	Fair	25°F	20°F	81%	NW 6 mph	30.41 in	18°F
Evansville, IN	06:54	Fog/Mist	31°F	26°F	82%	NW 5 mph	30.36 in	26°F
Mount Carmel, IL	07:15	Fog/Mist	28°F	27°F	93%	NW 7 mph	30.38 in	21°F
Mount Vernon, IL	07:15	Overcast	37°F	28°F	70%	NE 8 mph	30.13 in	31°F
Owensboro, KY	06:56	Fog/Mist	30°F	28°F	92%	N 6 mph	30.33 in	24°F
Paducah, KY	06:53	Fair	29°F	25°F	85%	N 7 mph	30.35 in	22°F
Poplar Bluff, MO	06:53	Fair	30°F	22°F	72%	N 8 mph	30.37 in	22°F

CLICK ON LOCATION FOR THREE DAYS OF OBSERVATIONS

- Precipitation may develop over vs. move into your area.
- Type of precipitation indicated via commercial services WILL sometimes be inaccurate.

Short Term Forecasts



Watch "Top News of the Day"

 National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office weather.gov

Paducah, KY

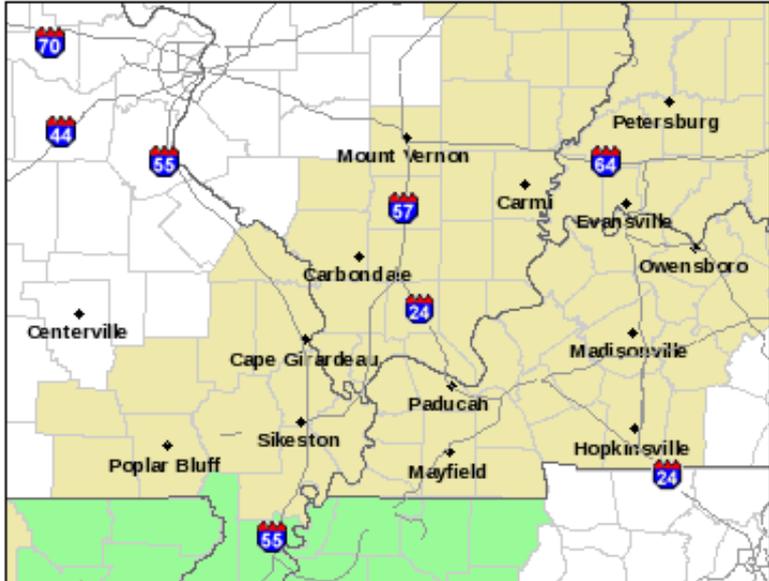
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Top News of the Day

- Ham radio operators: Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat., Dec. 1
- Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon
- The winter outlook has been updated
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FACEBOOK

US National Weather Service Paducah KY:

LIKE US!

The image shows a screenshot of the Facebook page for the US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links. Below that is the 'Admin Panel' with options like 'Edit Page', 'Build Audience', 'Help', and 'Show 2'. The main header features a large photo of the weather service building and a circular logo with the text 'NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE'. The page name is 'US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky' with 7,994 likes and 105 people talking about it. Below the name, there is a description of the organization and a 'Photos' section. The main content area includes a 'Status' section with a post from 'US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky' 18 hours ago, a link to a weather story, and a 'Recent Posts by Others' section with posts from Terry Allen, Robert Ballard, Richard Nicholas Piper IV, Greg Meffert, and Joel Johnson. At the bottom, there is a post from 'US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky' shared a link about an EF-1 tornado hitting Mayfield, KY.

Staying Abreast of the Very Latest Weather & Impacts

NWSChat

The screenshot shows the NWSChat website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NOAA logo and the text "NOAA's National Weather Service NWSChat". Below this is a search bar and a "Go" button. The main content area is titled "NWSChat" and contains a yellow warning box with a triangle icon. The warning text reads: "You are accessing a U.S. Government information system, which includes: 1) this computer, 2) this computer network, 3) all computers connected to this network, and 4) all devices and storage media attached to this network or to a computer on this network. You understand and consent to the following: you may access this information system for authorized use only; you have no reasonable expectation of privacy regarding any communication of data transiting or stored on this information system; at any time and for any lawful Government purpose, the Government may monitor, intercept, and search and seize any communication or data transiting or stored on this information system; and any communications or data transiting or stored on this information system may be disclosed or used for any lawful Government purpose." Below the warning box, there is a paragraph explaining that NWSChat is an Instant Messaging program used by NWS operational personnel to share critical weather information. Another paragraph states that this information is exchanged in real-time with the media and emergency response community. A third paragraph explains that NWS partners can use NWSChat as an efficient means of seeking clarifications and enhancements to the communication stream. A fourth paragraph lists the standards for participation in NWSChat, including being a member of the emergency management (EM) community. On the right side of the page, there are several blue buttons and links: "NWSChat Live!" with a sub-link "Access NWSChat Live.", "Access Online Tools" with a sub-link "NWSChat Username (not handle) :", a text input field, "@nwschat.weather.gov", "Password:", another text input field, and a "Log In" button. Below these are "Important Links" including "Reset NWSChat Password", "Request NWSChat Account - NWS Partners" (highlighted with a red box), "Request Account - NWS Personnel", "Documentation", and "Office Contacts". At the bottom right, there is a "News and Notes" section with an "RSS" icon and a link "26 Oct Service Move". The browser's address bar shows "https://nwschat.weather.gov/". The taskbar at the bottom of the screen shows various application icons and the system clock indicating 11:02 PM on 11/26/2012.

NWSChat

Warning: You are accessing a U.S. Government information system, which includes: 1) this computer, 2) this computer network, 3) all computers connected to this network, and 4) all devices and storage media attached to this network or to a computer on this network. You understand and consent to the following: you may access this information system for authorized use only; you have no reasonable expectation of privacy regarding any communication of data transiting or stored on this information system; at any time and for any lawful Government purpose, the Government may monitor, intercept, and search and seize any communication or data transiting or stored on this information system; and any communications or data transiting or stored on this information system may be disclosed or used for any lawful Government purpose.

NWSChat is an Instant Messaging program utilized by NWS operational personnel to share critical weather decision expertise and other types of significant weather information essential to the NWS's mission of saving lives and property.

This information is exchanged in real-time with the media and emergency response community, who in turn play a key role in communicating the NWS's hazardous weather messages to the public.

NWS partners can use NWSChat as an efficient means of seeking clarifications and enhancements to the communication stream originating from the NWS during a fast-paced significant weather or hydrologic event.

In order to participate in NWSChat, you must meet at least one of the following standards:

- *Be a member of the emergency management (EM) community:* Members of the EM community includes public safety officials who serve as

Navigation and Links:

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[Office Contacts](#)
- News and Notes **RSS**
[26 Oct Service Move](#)

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Current Weather Observations
“MesoWest”

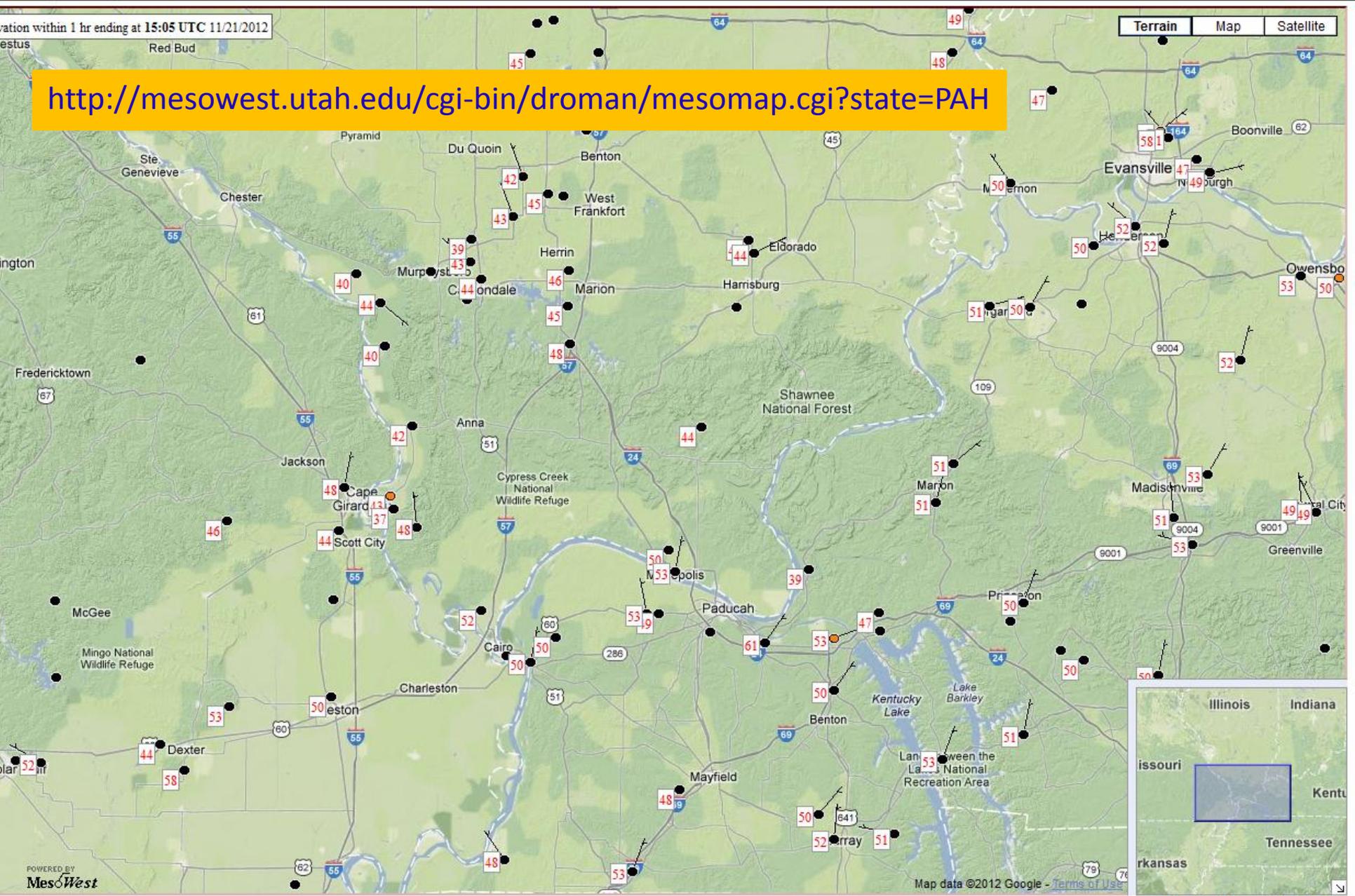
mesowest.utah.edu/



Station within 1 hr ending at 15:05 UTC 11/21/2012

<http://mesowest.utah.edu/cgi-bin/droman/mesomap.cgi?state=PAH>

Terrain | Map | Satellite



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The Kentucky MesoNet

<http://kymesonet.org>

KENTUCKY MESONET  *The Commonwealth's Official Source for Weather and Climate Data*

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Crittenden County, KY
Marion 4 NE
Dewpoint: 47°F
Humidity: 79%
Precipitation: 0 in. (SINCE 12AM)
Wind: E at 4 mph

54°
9:15 am CST
[make site default](#)

Air Temp (°F)
9:15am CST 11/21/12

Highest Temps			
Last 24 Hours			
Greenville 6 N:			68.8 °F
Murray 1 W:			68.4 °F
Madisonville 4 S:			68.2 °F
Cadiz 4 SW:			68.0 °F
Hartford 3 E:			67.7 °F
MAXT	MINT	PRCP	WIND

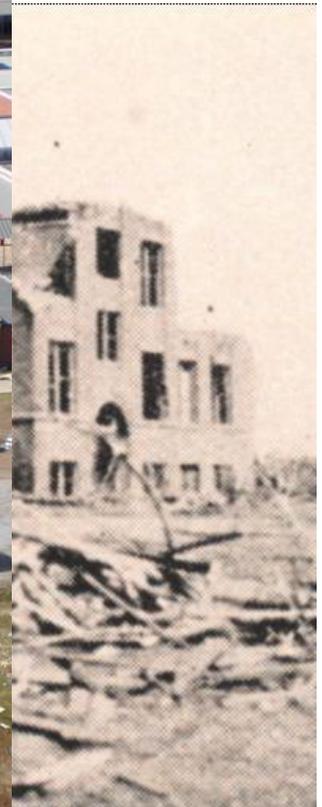
Site Progress

NEW	NEW
	
TODD CO.	MUHLENBERG CO.

Temperature Precipitation Wind Moisture Other
Solar Radiation Wind Chill Radar new!

Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Considerations

Scenario: There is a High Risk of Severe Thunderstorms this afternoon for my area. Storms are expected to develop and/or move into my area between 1 and 2 pm. Dismiss early? Dismiss late?



Brian Peters

Select



Tornado safety in schools

- ▶ Designate in the school safety plan which faculty will monitor NOAA Weather Radio during Watches and other severe weather. Include provisions for all after-hours, school related activities. Provide a backup source of information, such as TV, radio, or internet.
- ▶ Establish guidelines for the use of school buses during Watches and Warnings. All school buses should be equipped with radios for communicating important weather information. Delaying bus departures and diverting buses on routes are strategies for protecting drivers and riders.
- ▶ Identify in the plan the personnel and method to disseminate all severe weather information to every class and activity. Have an alternate method to notify students and faculty in case of power failure.
- ▶ School bus drivers should identify protective areas along each part of their route where they and their charges can take cover if overtaken by a tornado or high winds. Do not hesitate to take cover in ditches or other below ground level places. Do not stay in the school bus if caught in a tornado or high winds. Do not attempt to outrun severe
- ▶ Remember, the NWS issues a Tornado Watch when...

http://www.srh.noaa.gov/media/hun/tornadosafety_schools.pdf

- ▶ Provide that faculty or students with disabilities take cover early, before arrival of impending severe weather.
- ▶ Include tornado shelters when planning additions or new school buildings.



▶ Train students so they can instantly get into a protective position when instructed. Students should face an interior wall, with knees and elbows on the ground, and hands over the back of their head. Illustrations of this position should be available to the students prior to a severe weather event. See illustration to the right.

- ▶ Hold drills on a regular and frequent basis.
- ▶ Have a NOAA Weather Radio with battery back-up.
- ▶ Designate the best available protective areas within the school.
- ▶ Ensure students know the correct protective position.
- ▶ Be ready to take action when a Tornado Warning is issued in your area.

The NWS, FEMA, State & Local Emergency Management, & the Red Cross...

Urge all schools to develop a severe weather safety plan to take cover within 60 seconds. Conduct regular drills to practice such plan. This will allow both students and faculty to remain calm and move quickly in the event of a real tornado. Tornado drills should be different than fire drills.

The inside of this handout is designed to be used as a poster to be displayed where children can become familiar with tornado safety procedures.





Tornado Preparedness Tips for School Administrators

[Roger Edwards](#)

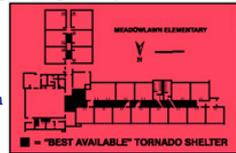
Storm Prediction Center

Norman, Oklahoma

PREPARE A TORNADO SAFETY PLAN...

The most important part of tornado safety in schools, and in similar logistical arrangements such as nursing homes, is to develop a good tornado safety plan *tailored to your building design and ability to move people*. I have found, through damage surveys and other visits, that a lot of schools settle for a cookbook-style, "one size fits all" approach to tornado safety -- often based on outdated literature -- which can be dangerous when considering the fact that every school is built differently. The basic concept in the schematic at right is usually correct; but it *must* be adapted to your unique school arrangements! For example, the idea of a relatively safe hallway becomes invalid if the hall is lined with plate glass, or if it has windows to the outdoors.

Ideally, the lowest possible level is the safest. However, in some large schools, there may not be enough time to direct all occupants of the upper floors into safe areas, or enough space in those lowest-floor safe areas to hold everyone. Ultimately, the school administrators need to evaluate the time, space, traffic flow and coordination needed to direct all the kids and staff down into safe areas in an organized manner. That will require a *customized drill* which will vary from building to building, so the guidelines here must be rather open-ended by necessity. [Here is a video example](#) from the state of Missouri, using one school there.



Some things to consider:

- **SECONDS COUNT.** If it takes more than 2 or 3 minutes to move all upper-floor people down, things get really risky! Though the average lead (advance) time on tornado warnings has gone up a lot in recent years, remember that the average still includes some warnings with NO lead time, or just a minute or two. Warnings are not absolutely perfect, radars can't see everything, and tornadoes don't always touch down miles away and make themselves visible before hitting. Plan for a *reasonable worst-case scenario* -- a tornado is spotted very closely, and hits with little or no warning. That way, during the majority of cases when there are warnings with several minutes of lead time, the plan can be executed and those people are all in a safe place within one or two minutes of the first alert. That is the ultimate goal. Now, how do you define a "safe place?" **There is no guaranteed "safe place" in a tornado;** but...
- **FLYING DEBRIS** is the biggest tornado hazard. That's why one needs to put as many walls as possible between oneself and the tornado. Are there interior hallways, rooms or corridors on the second floor which are NOT exposed to the outside through windows, doors or walls of glass? If not, then it can turn into a death trap of flying broken glass. If there are enough enclosed places on the second floor with no direct exposure to the exterior, *perhaps* you can save the time needed to move people down one floor. But even then...
- **BUILDING STRENGTH:** Architecturally, how sound is the construction of the main building? What interior parts can stay intact during total structural loads created by 150-200 mph winds (which exceed the speeds found in most tornadoes) from any direction? Is *anyplace* on an upper floor safe enough in such structural stresses? To best answer that, consult a professional architectural engineer -- preferably one who has *wind engineering* experience. Sure, there are budgets to make; and such expertise won't come cheap -- but it can ultimately save lives. FEMA also has an [online discussion](#) on construction of community tornado shelters, including those for schools. Other valuable sources for help are your local emergency manager's office, and the Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) at [your nearest National Weather Service office](#).
- **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** Although this guide is intended for existing facilities, many of the same concepts can be applied to making tornado-safe schools from the blueprint stage. The same questions about wind damage and tornado safety should be asked of the architects and engineers. Again, this is where a licensed engineer with *wind engineering specialization* would be the most beneficial; and the [FEMA tornado shelter guides](#) are great resources too. Even if hiring a professional engineer isn't an option, the builder can line with concrete enough interior rooms in the school to create a series of *safe rooms* to hold students. Safe rooms aren't just for houses! They can also be retrofitted into existing facilities; but that is usually much costlier than building them in new construction.

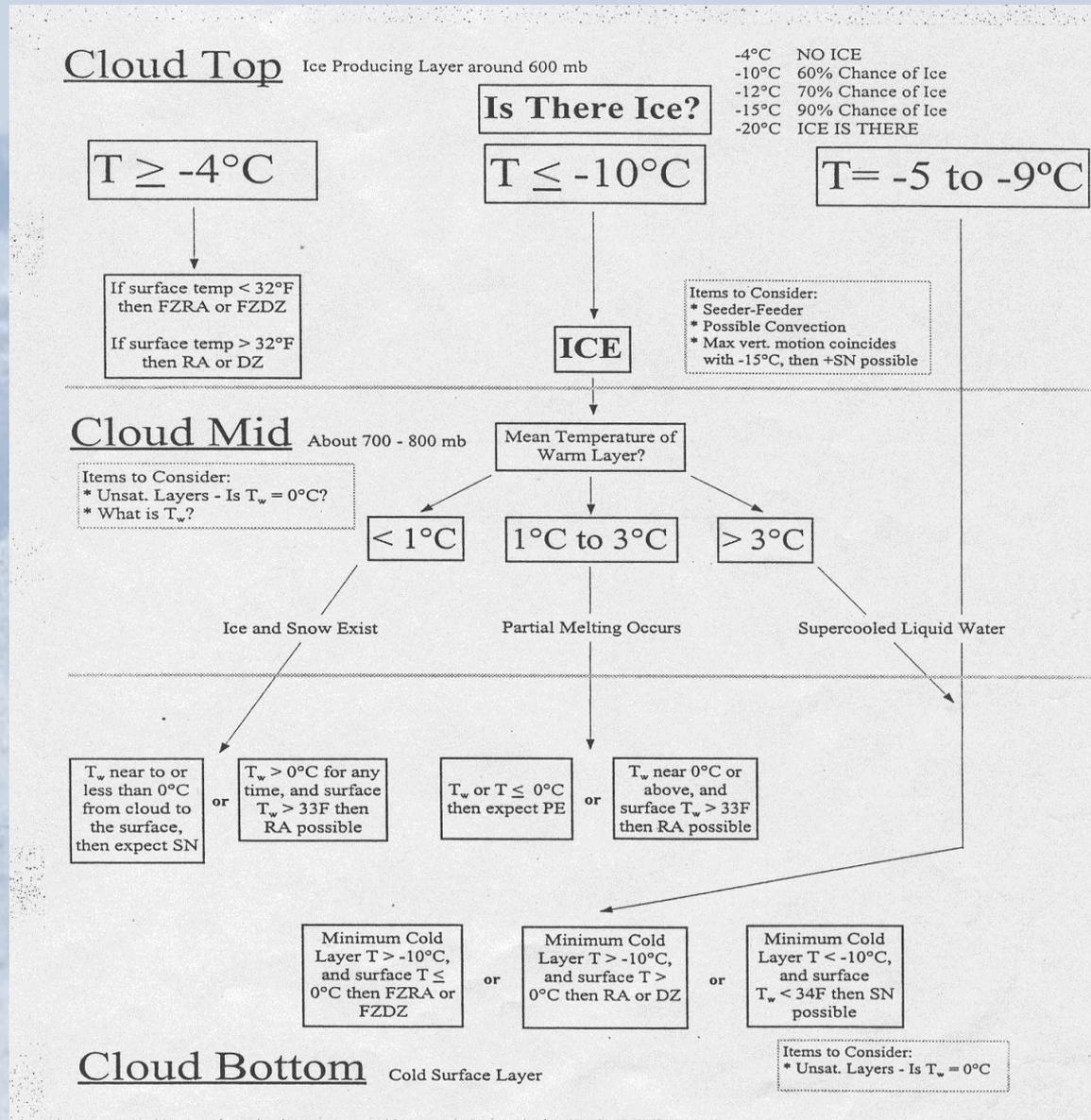
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/school.html>

Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Considerations

- **Still studying how these things form/become severe so quickly**
- **Tornadoes can develop quickly on radar (10-15 minutes)**
- **Lead time is short due to storms moving at 60 mph – you must act quickly!**
- **Occur when temperatures and humidity are higher than normal!**
- ***Watch our web page every day – make it a routine***
- ***Required of our StormReady School!***

The Challenges of Forecasting Wintry Precipitation

- Must be moisture and lift at -12C to have snow!
- If it warms too much at 5000 ft may get freezing rain
- What are the temperatures at the ground!
- We do better with larger storm systems

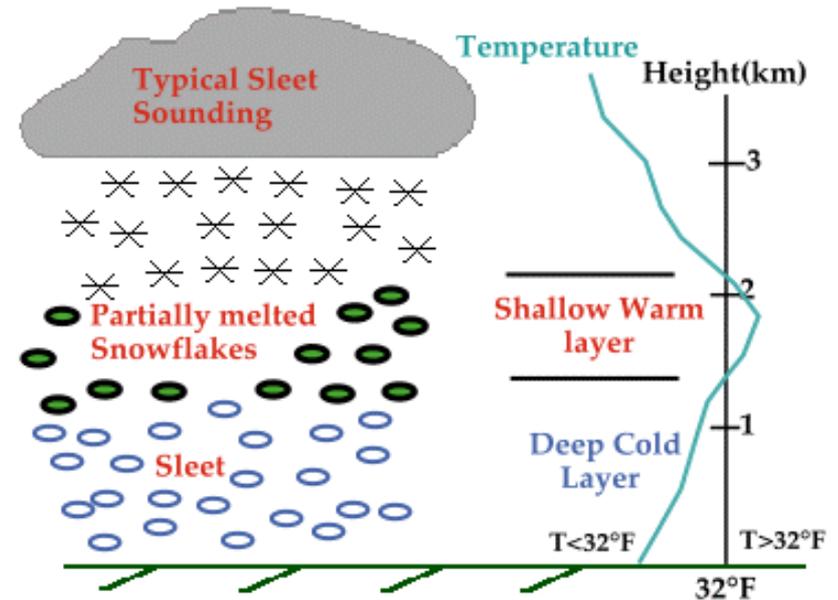
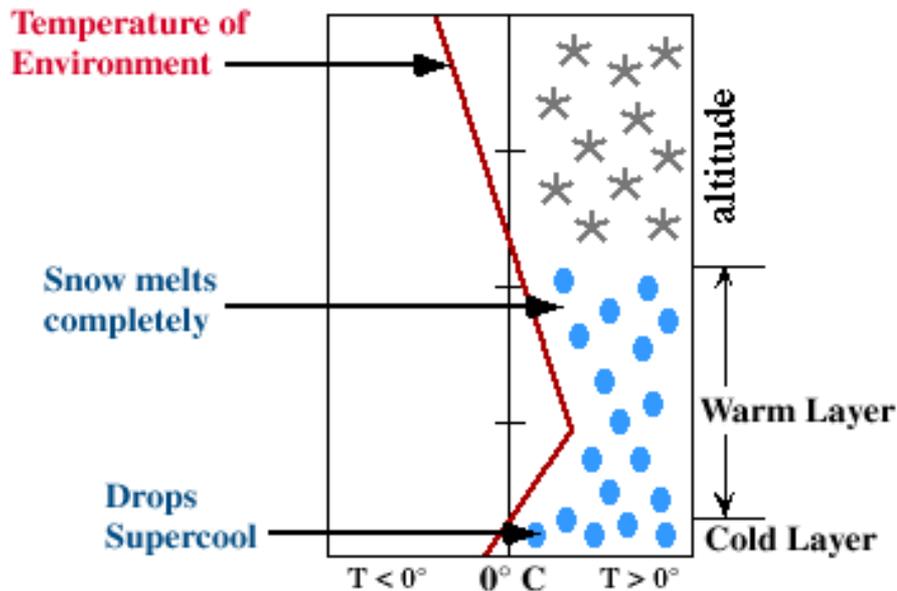


Often is a mix in our area!

Freezing Rain & Sleet & Snow

Two main differences

- depth of the cold air at the surface
- temperature of warm air around 5000 ft



The difference between the two may only be a degree or two a couple of thousand feet above the ground

Where Do You Get Your Forecasts?

- *in the check-out line at Wal Mart?*
- TV...Radio...Other Internet sources...**All use NWS data and NWS forecast models but...**
 - TV stations display “massaged” or non-NWS forecasts/maps – Most in our area follow the NWS
 - All forecasters, private, NWS and TV, interpret models differently
 - NWS updates internet graphics several times a day as needed; TV updates forecast less often
 - Forecasts from the radio are highly dependent upon which station you listen to...

Outlooks Page – One Stop Shopping!

*Bookmark
this page!*



National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office
Paducah, KY

weather.gov

Home Site Map News Organization Search for: NWS All NOAA Go

Top News of the Day [Recently Issued: Public Information](#)

- Ham radio operators: Skywarn Recognition Day is Sat., Dec. 1
- Area radars to have Dual Pol upgrade soon
- The winter outlook has been updated
- [Additional News Headlines](#)

Watches & Warnings Observations Forecast Graphics Rivers & Lakes Climate Local Overview

Click on the map below for the latest forecast.

Read watches, warnings & advisories

Zoom Out

Hazardous Weather Outlook Short Term Forecast

Last map update: Mon, Nov. 26, 2012 at 2:24:36 pm CST

Weather Story Radar Satellite Weather Map

The screenshot shows the National Weather Service website for Paducah, KY. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with 'Outlooks' highlighted in a red box. The main content area features a map of the Paducah region with various weather outlooks. A yellow arrow points to the 'Outlooks' link in the sidebar. The map includes a legend for 'Hazardous Weather Outlook' and 'Short Term Forecast'. Below the map are four thumbnail images: Weather Story, Radar, Satellite, and Weather Map.



Local forecast by "City, St" or Zip Code

XML RSS Feeds

Current Hazards

Watches & Warnings

Outlooks

Submit Report

Current Conditions

Observations

Radar

Satellite

Snow Cover

Snowfall Analysis

Precip Analysis

Forecasts

Forecast Discussion

Local Area

Activity Planner

Aviation Weather

Fire Weather

Marine Weather

Severe Weather

Winter Weather

Hurricane Center

Hydrology

Rivers & Lakes

Climate

Local

National

Drought

More...

Weather Safety

Preparedness

Severe Weather

Latest Local Hazardous Weather Outlook

Day 1



Mesoscale Discussion

Day 2



SPC Activity Chart

Day 3



SPC Mesoanalysis Chart



Showing a 1 hour radar loop, the current Day 1 convective outlook, and all active watches.



Click on the image for a detailed look at severe weather parameters for various sectors across the county.

Rainfall

Latest Local Hydrologic Outlook

Days 1-3

Excessive rainfall

Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



- Additional Info
- Items of Interest
- Education Resources
- Coop Observer
- Top News Archives
- Our Office
- Contact Us
- Contact Info
- Feedback

Day 4-5



Excessive Rainfall



Winter

- [Heavy snow discussion](#)

Snow Probability (4 inches or more)

Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Freezing Rain Probability (1/4 inch or more)

Day 1



Day 2



Day 3

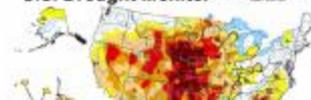


Drought

- [Weekly Assessment Discussion](#)
- [Seasonal Drought Outlook Discussion](#)

Weekly Assessment

U.S. Drought Monitor November 23, 2012



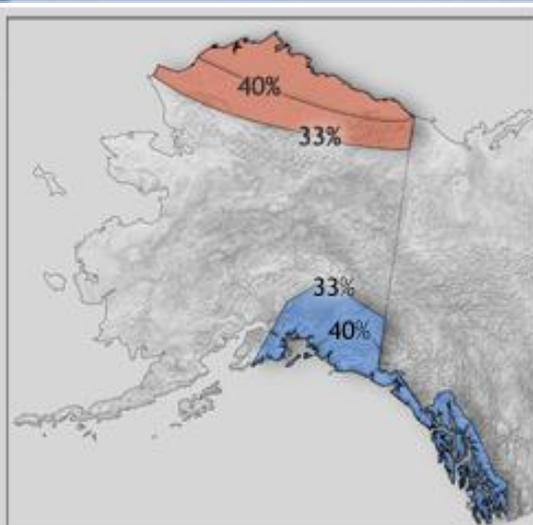
Seasonal Outlook

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook through Growing Season (to July) Forecast issued for November 15, 2012. Forecast as of 11/15/12.

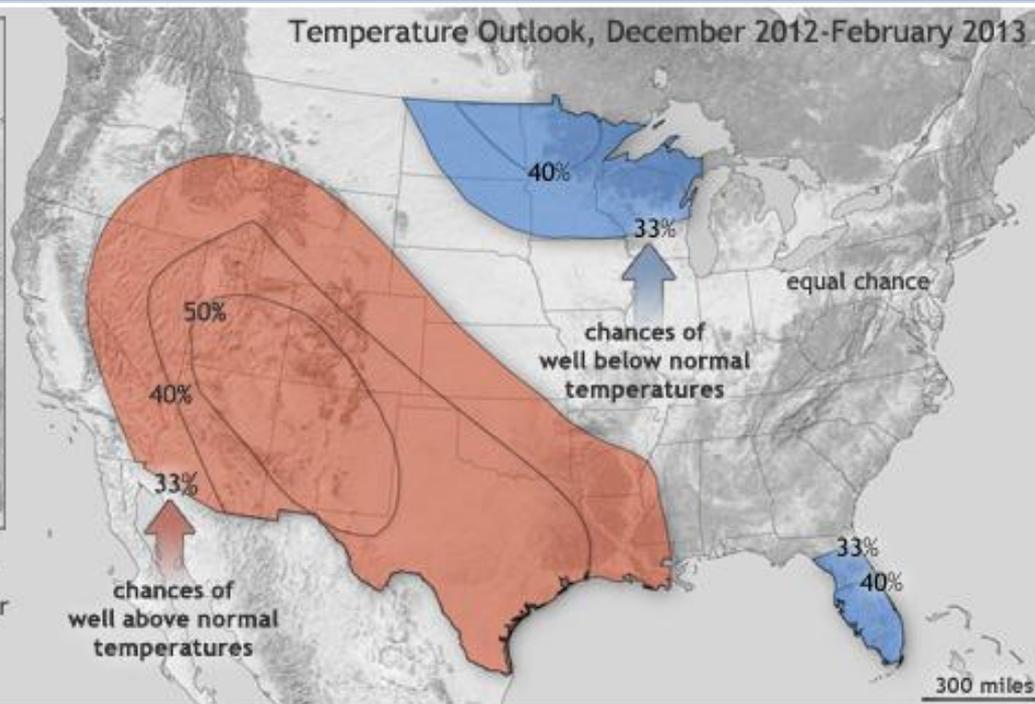


A photograph of a snow-covered road in a rural or suburban area. A snowplow is visible in the distance, clearing the road. The scene is set in winter, with snow piled up on the sides of the road and utility poles visible on the left. The background shows houses and trees under a clear sky.

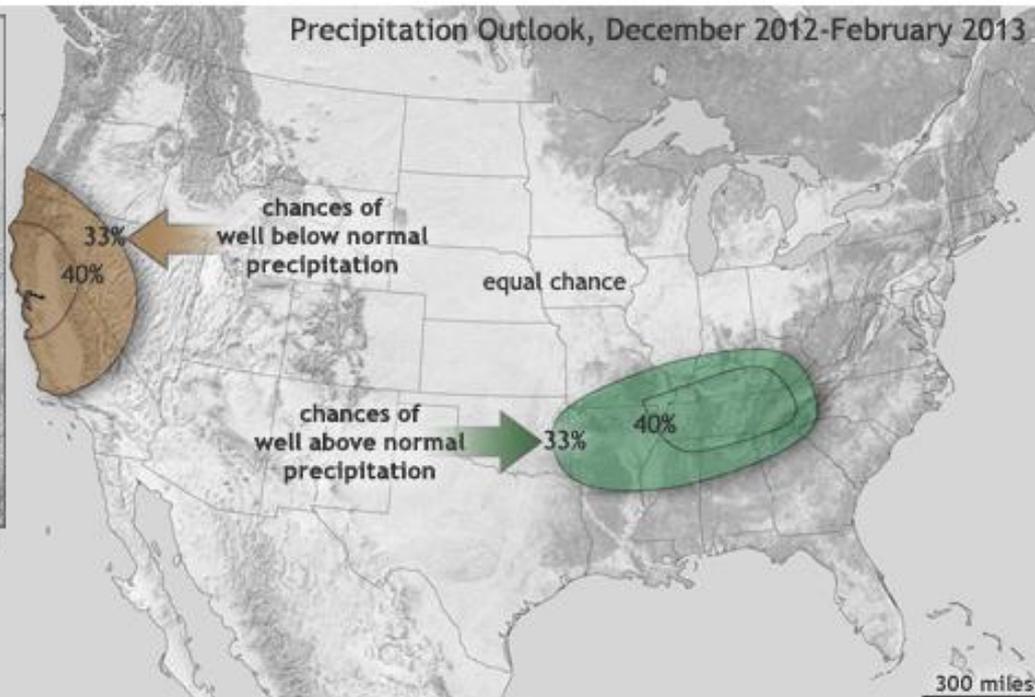
The Winter Outlook!



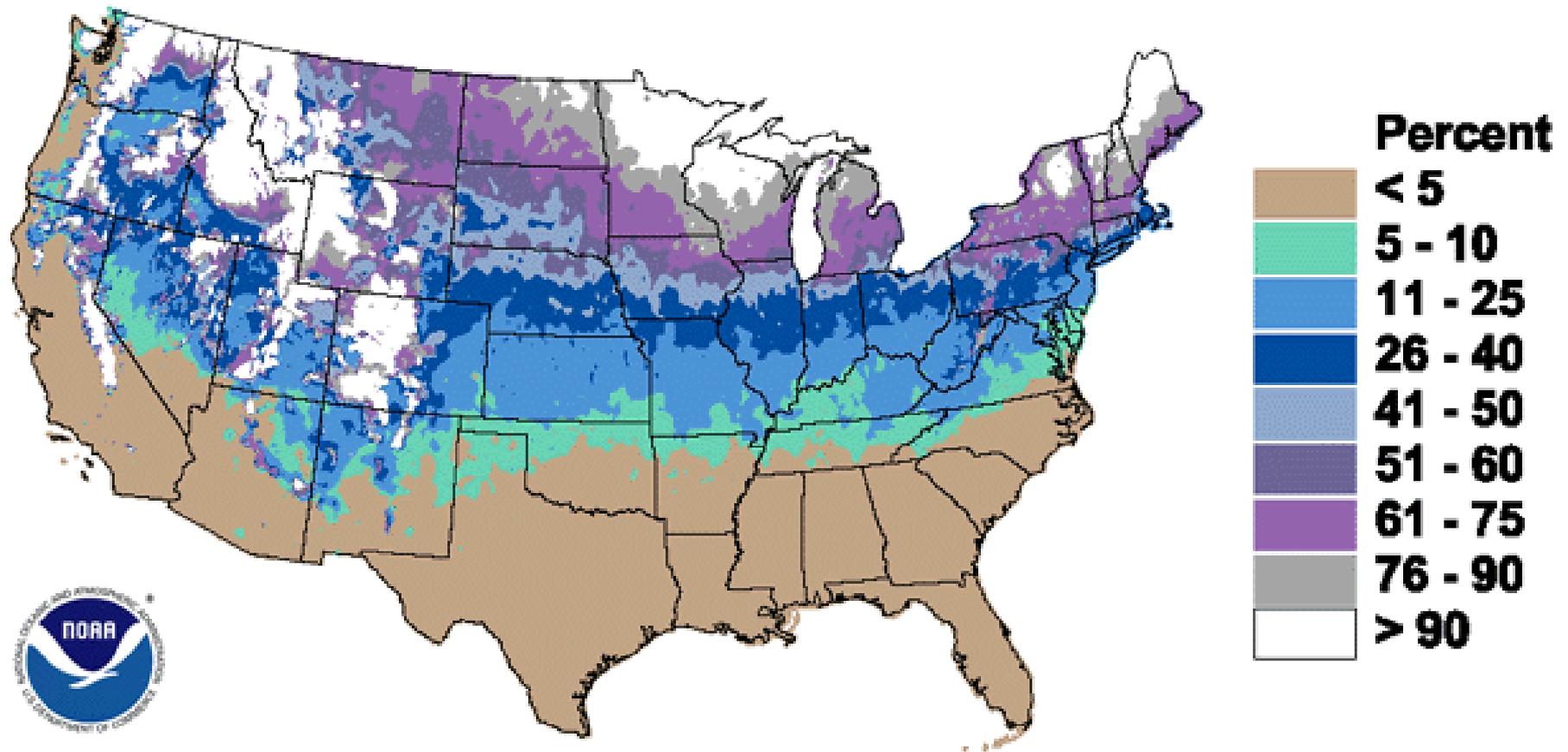
"Well above normal" or "well below normal" refers to temperatures in the upper or lower third of the range of winter temperatures observed in an area from 1981-2010.



"Well above normal" or "well below normal" refers to total rain & snowfall in the upper or lower third of the range of winter precipitation observed in an area from 1981-2010.



Probability of a White Christmas



It's All Over!

This and other presentations available at...

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/pah/?n=winter2012>