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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



## Weather Radar Dover AFB, DE Gets Upgrade

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The Department of Defense WSR-88D weather radar near Dover AFB, DE will be down for approximately 10 days beginning Monday, April 3, 2017 for technicians to perform critical maintenance, and install a significant technological upgrade. The work on the WSR-88D has been scheduled to minimize potential impacts from severe weather and could last longer than planned.

During the outage, radar coverage is available from adjacent radar sites including;

Mt. Holly, NJ

Sterling, VA

Wakefield, VA

For a map of all radars and link to live data please visit <https://radar.weather.gov/index.htm>

A crew will install a new signal processor, upgrading technology, improving processing speed and data quality, providing added functionality, and supporting IT security. The crew will also perform critical maintenance to the radar in an effort to improve radar operations and reliability.

This is the first of four major upgrades, known as service life extension projects, planned in the next five years to replace and refurbish major components of the 20 year old WSR-88Ds and to keep the radars operational into the 2030s. The \$150M investment is being made by the three organizations that use these radars, the NOAA National Weather Service, United States Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration. The other service life extension projects include refurbishing the transmitter, pedestal, and equipment shelters.

The tri-agency Radar Operations Center, which supports the radars, estimates it will take about 10 months to upgrade the signal processor on all 159 operational WSR-88Ds.

A tentative deployment schedule is available:

<http://www.roc.noaa.gov/WSR88D/PublicDocs/SLEP/ECP0437SigProcSLEPDeploySched.pdf>

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