

The Albany National Weather Service Forecast Office Will Test New Winter Storm Warning Snowfall Criteria During The 2022-23 Winter Season

Beginning this winter season the Albany New York National Weather Service Forecast Office will test a change to the Winter Storm Warning Snowfall Criteria in our County Warning Area of responsibility. The reason for the change is to better align warning snowfall criteria to the local climatology of the region.

Historically the Albany National Weather Service County Warning Area snowfall criteria for warnings has been the following:

New York (NYZ032-033-038>043-047>054-058>061-063>066-082>084):

7 inches of snow in 12 hours or

9 inches of snow in 24 hours

Vermont (Bennington and Windham Counties, VTZ013>015):

6 inches of snow in 12 hours or

9 inches of snow in 24 hours

Massachusetts (Berkshire County - MAZ001-025):

6 inches of snow in 12 hours or

8 inches of snow in 24 hours

Connecticut (Litchfield County - CTZ001-013):

6 inches of snow in 12 hours or

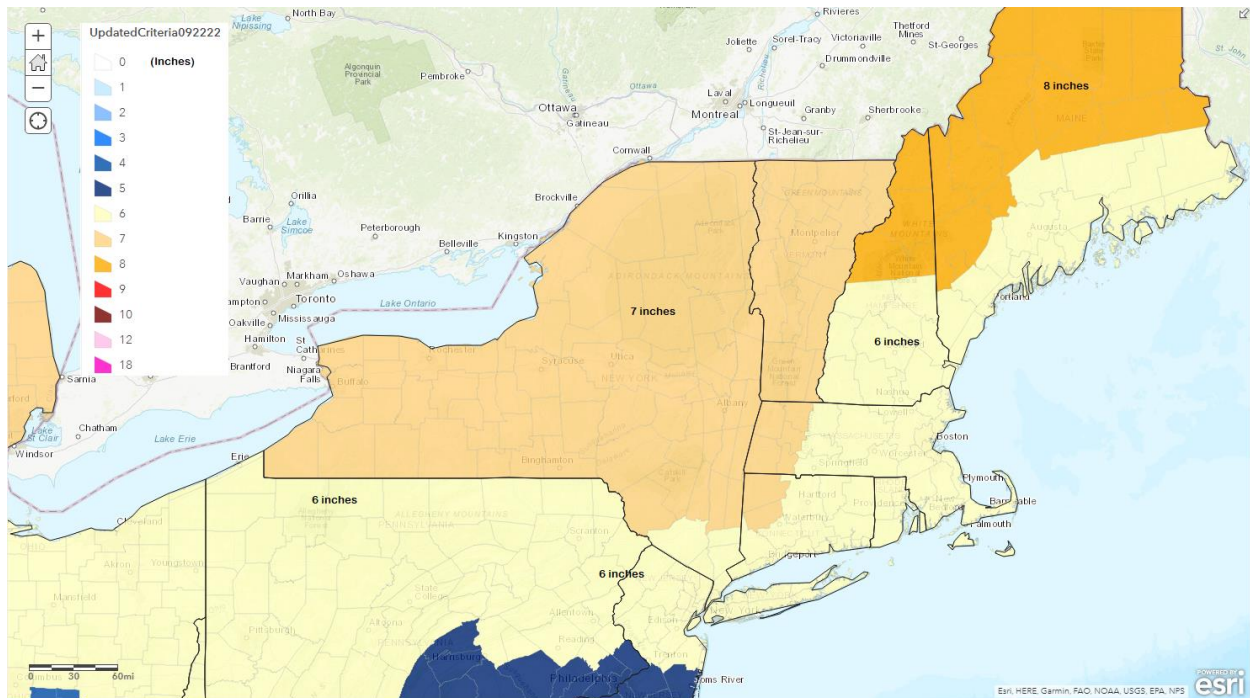
8 inches of snow in 24 hours

The new experimental Winter Storm Warning Snowfall Criteria will be the following:

7 inches of snowfall during a winter storm event.

Therefore, all 4 areas outlined above will have the same criteria for winter storm warnings.

The following map is included for reference:



Experimental 2022-2023 Winter Storm Warning Snowfall Criteria

The new experimental criteria for this winter season is based on local snowfall climatology to better align Winter Storm Warnings to average annual snowfall. Based on this approach it will limit over warning in western New England that is used to more snowfall. Warning criteria for snowfall remains essentially the same for our New York zones.

There will be **no changes** to snowfall criteria for **Winter Weather Advisories**.

Evaluation of this experiment will take place in the spring of 2023 to determine if these changes will become official policy for the winter of 2023-24.

If you have any questions or feedback, please contact:

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