



Did You Know...

...The NWS Has Been Serving Since 1870



- U.S. Weather Bureau began in 1870 under President Grant as part of the Army Signal Corps
- First federal weather office was established in Chicago
- U.S. Weather Bureau became the National Weather Service and part of NOAA in 1970



A Short History of the NWS

Army Signal Service assigned to take weather observations

1st agricultural forecasts

Hurricane forecast service established

River Forecast Centers established

Weather Bureau renamed "National Weather Service"

U.S. Weather Bureau created in Ag. Dept.

Aviation forecast service begins

1st weather radar

AFOS computer network

AWIPS computer network

1870

1880

1890

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2020

Upper air observations via kites

Fire weather forecasts begin

Upper air observations via balloon

Severe weather forecasts begin

Weather Bureau moved to Commerce Dept.

1st weather satellite



NOAA Weather Radio begins

WSR-88D radar as part of NWS modernization

Dual-pol radar



@NWSGrandRapids

National Weather Service – Grand Rapids, MI