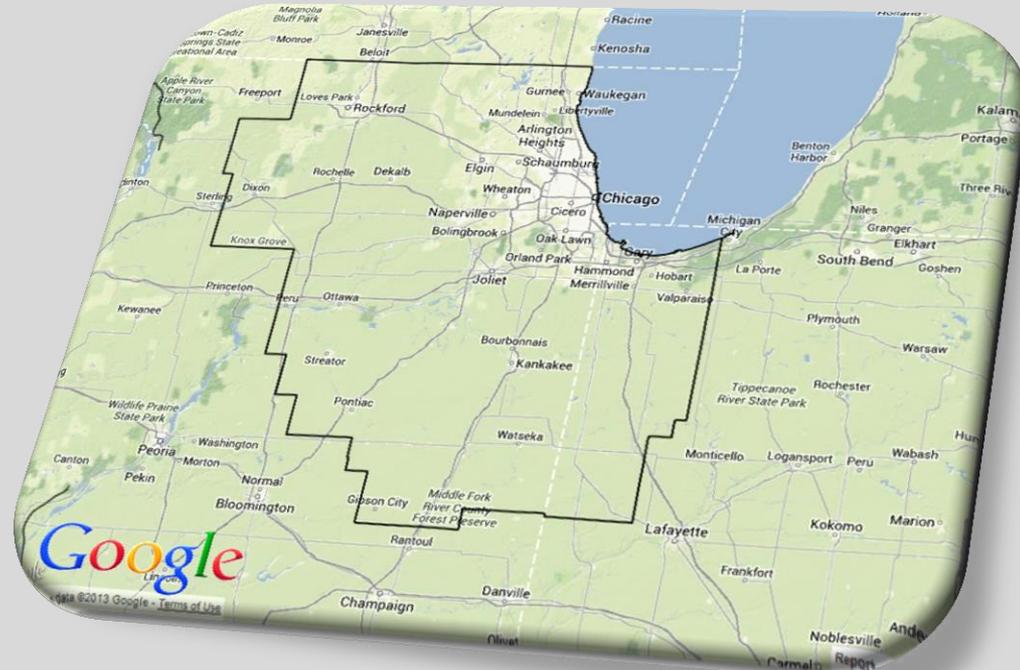




# Severe Weather Possible Today

December 23, 2015 Briefing



## National Weather Service

### Chicago/Romeoville, IL

<http://www.weather.gov/chicago>

 [facebook.com/NWSChicago](https://www.facebook.com/NWSChicago)

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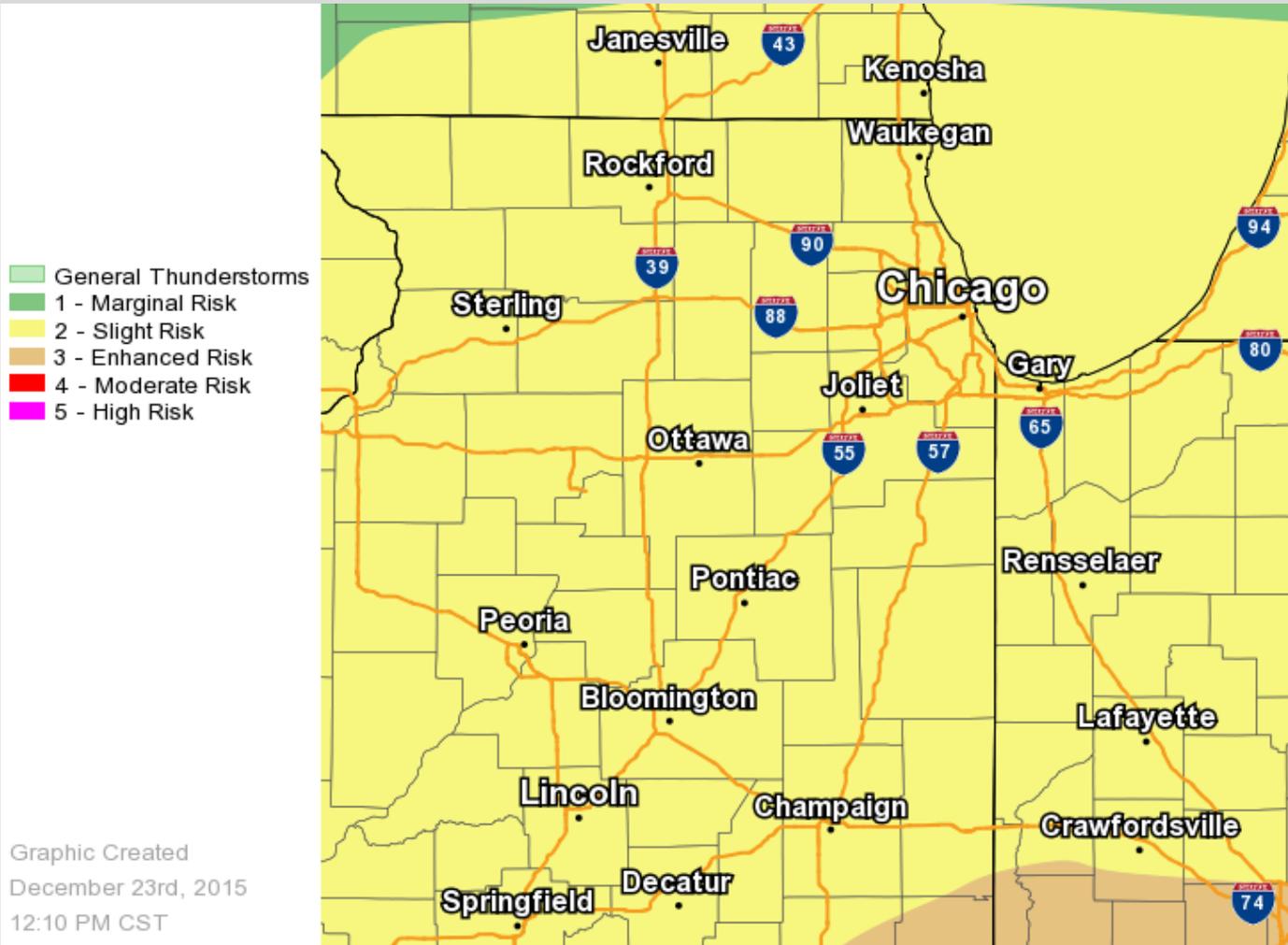
# Impacts/Hazards

**One round of rain and thunderstorms will depart to the east early this afternoon. The main severe threat will still be later this afternoon and early this evening when scattered thunderstorms are expected to develop across western/central IL and race northeast.**

What	Where	Timing	Impacts
<b>Severe Thunderstorms</b> Damaging Winds & Isolated Tornadoes	Northern IL & Northern IN	Best Window 4 PM – 9 PM CST	Outside activity interrupted, Structural damage possible
<b>Non-Thunderstorm Winds</b> Gusts of 50-60 mph	Northern IL & Northwest IN	Especially 10 PM – 2 AM CST	Downed tree branches, Minor structural damage possible
<b>Flooding</b> Minor	Northern IL & Northwest IN	Ongoing into next week	Minor flooding on area rivers & streams



# Today's Severe Weather Outlook



## [Understanding SPC Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/new/images/Outlook-category-descriptions.png)

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/new/images/Outlook-category-descriptions.png>



# Environmental Ingredients



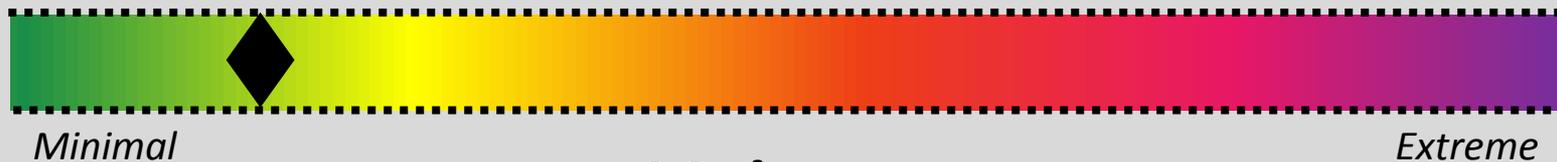
## Deep Layer Wind Shear



## Low Level Wind Shear



## Instability



## Moisture

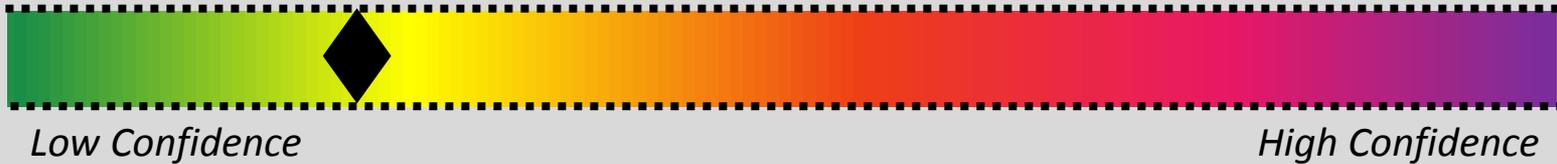




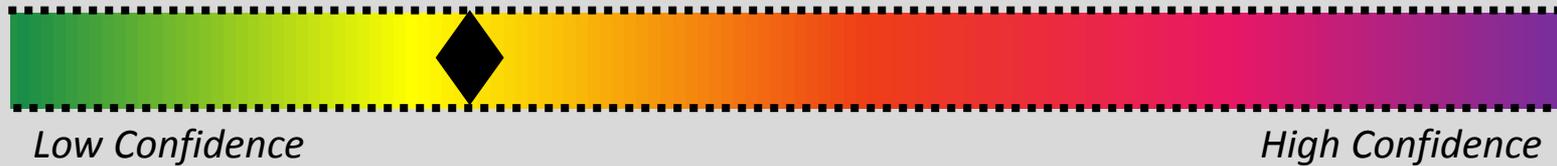
# Thunderstorm Threat Confidence



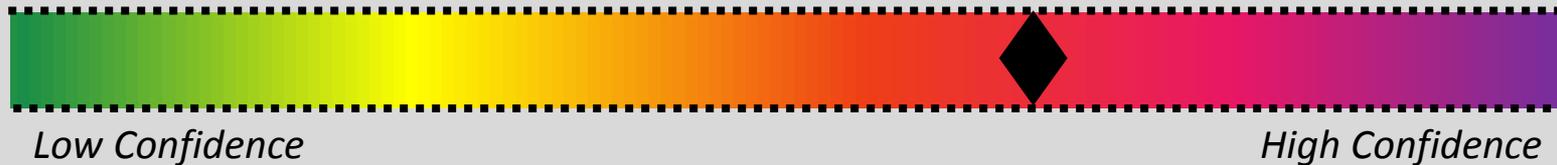
## Significant Tornadoes (EF2 and Greater)



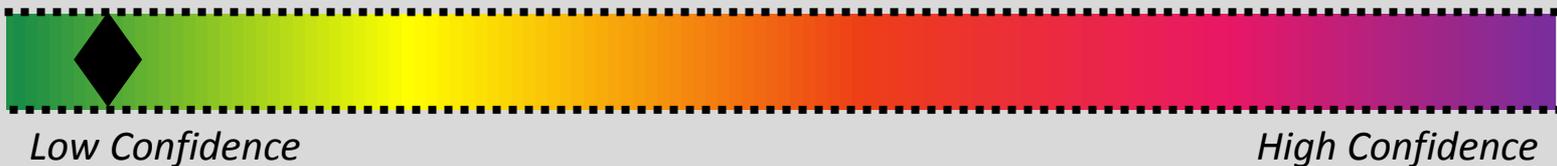
## Tornadoes



## Thunderstorm Damaging Winds ( $\geq 58$ MPH)



## Large Hail ( $\geq 1$ inch diameter)



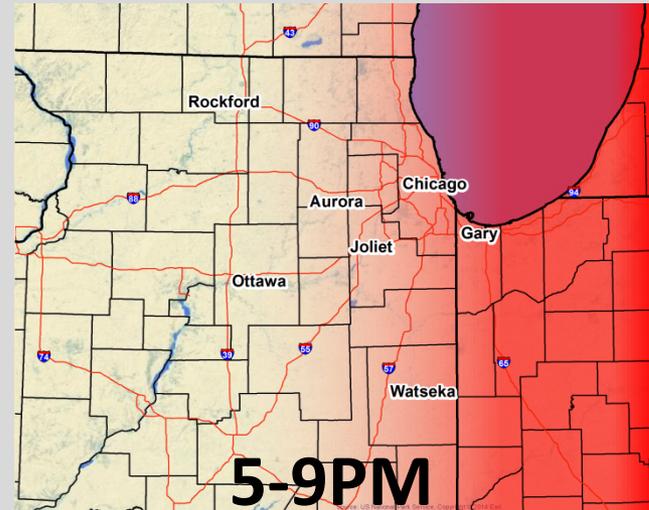
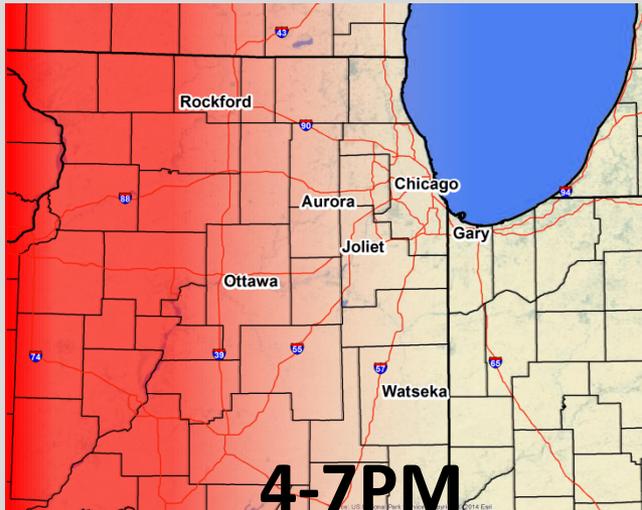


# Severe Threat Timeline



**Low Severe Threat**

**Best Severe Storm Potential**

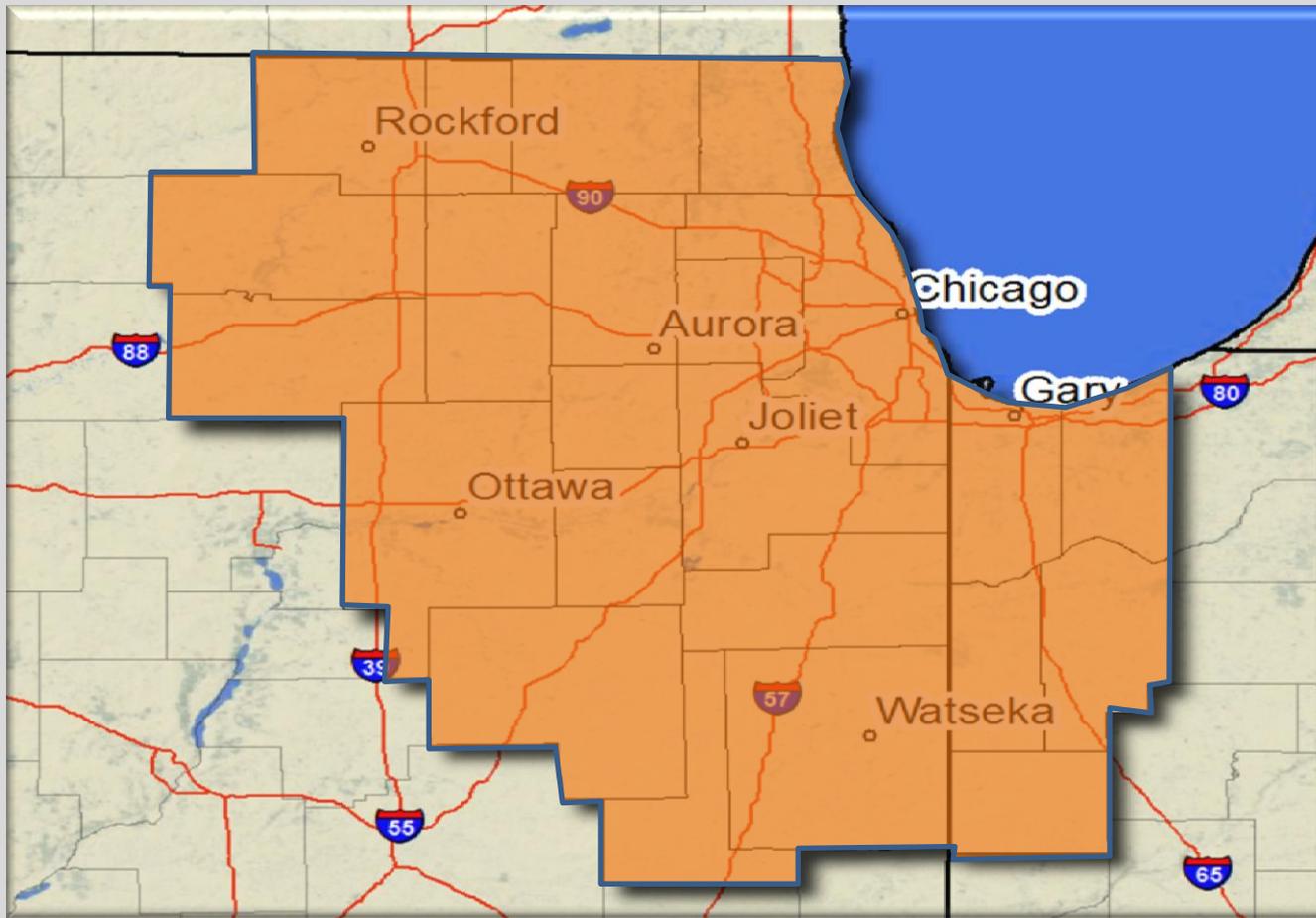


**Greater Threat**      **Lesser Threat**



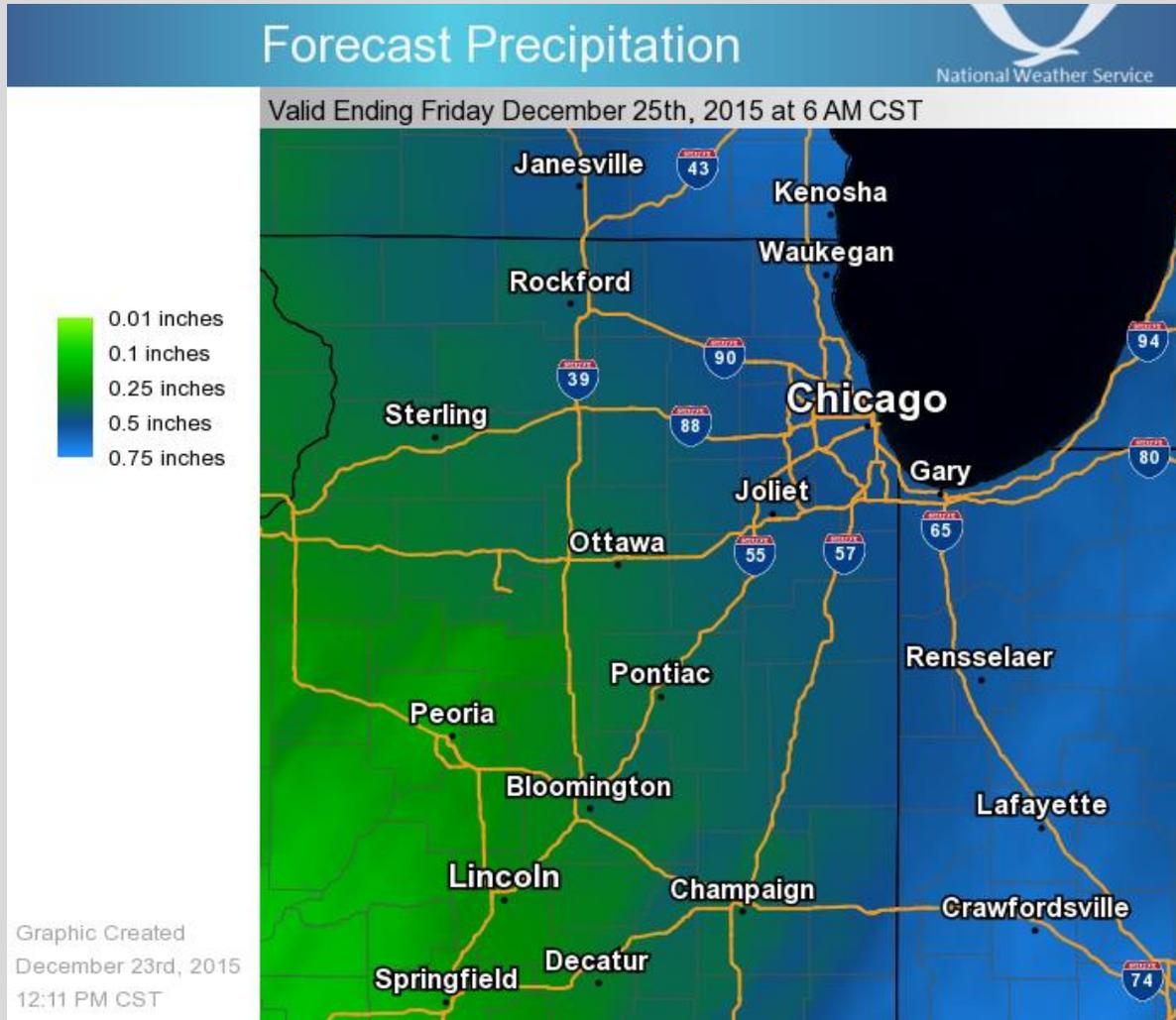
# Wind Advisory 6PM – 3 AM CST

*Gusts 50-60 mph outside of storms*





# Forecast Rainfall



**Up to an inch of rain is expected through Thursday. Locally heavier amounts are possible with thunderstorms.**



# Additional Thoughts



- **Low confidence but potentially high impact event**
- **High confidence in wind gusts of 50-60 mph outside of thunderstorms, especially 10 PM to 2 AM.**
- **Out-of-Season Severe Weather Event**
  - *Holiday Plans & Travel*
- **Remind family and friends to have a way to receive watches & warnings**
  - *Share/retweet our information on Social Media!*



# Tornado Safety



- **Have a preparedness plan.** Know your tornado shelter!
- **Home:** Basement and under the stairwell or heavy piece of furniture. If *no basement*, then an interior closet, hall, or bathroom on lowest floor.
- **Schools, hospitals, and office buildings:** Small interior rooms or interior halls on lowest floor, and avoid long corridors with windows and large open areas with free span roofs such as gymnasiums.
- **Steel and concrete high rise buildings:** Interior halls, bathrooms or closets and stay away from windows.
- **Shopping centers:** Bathrooms and small interior spaces and avoid large open areas and glass.
- **Abandon mobile homes and vehicles for a nearby reinforced building. Lie flat in a ditch as a last resort.**
- **DO NOT seek shelter under an overpass or attempt to outrun a tornado in your vehicle!**





# Severe Thunderstorm Safety



- **Take Severe Thunderstorm Warnings seriously** as they pose threats to life and property.
- June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 was an example why, with destructive winds and brief tornadoes across northern IL & IN.
- Go into a sturdy shelter and stay away from windows
- Have a means to hear additional warning info



**Outdoor large venues can be particularly vulnerable to severe storms**





# Lightning Safety



*"When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!"*

- ⚡ **64% of LIGHTNING FATALITIES** happen during outdoor activities, namely boating, swimming & other sports!
- ⚡ If you hear **THUNDER**, lightning is close enough to strike you!
- ⚡ **SEEK SHELTER** indoors when storms approach; there is **NO** safe spot outdoors during a thunderstorm!
- ⚡ A closed, hard top metal vehicle **IS** safe in a storm!





# Additional Information



## [Storm Prediction Center Outlooks](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/)

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/>

## [Local Hazardous Weather Outlook](http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=LOT&product=HWO)

<http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=LOT&product=HWO>

## [Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](http://www.weather.gov/lot/ehwo)

<http://www.weather.gov/lot/ehwo>

## [Winter Severe Weather in the NWS Chicago Area](http://www.weather.gov/media/lot/severe/WinterSevereWeather.pdf)

<http://www.weather.gov/media/lot/severe/WinterSevereWeather.pdf>



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