



Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

- 1** Groundhog's Day Winter Storm
- 2** March 23-24th Winter Storm
- 3** Late Spring Freeze: Fruit Crop Damage
- 4** July 5th Squall Line & Tornadoes
- 5** The Northwoods Flooding
- 6** July 21st Northern WI Squall Line
- 7** July 21-24th Southern WI Heat
- 8** August 11th Flooding
- 9** September 20-22nd Flooding
- 10** Warmer Than Normal Autumn

These chronologically listed weather stories have been coordinated by the Warning Coordination Meteorologists from the National Weather Service offices in Duluth, Green Bay, La Crosse, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. Much of the climate related information and maps are from the National Centers for Environmental Information (www.ncei.noaa.gov) and the Midwest Regional Climate Center (mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/).

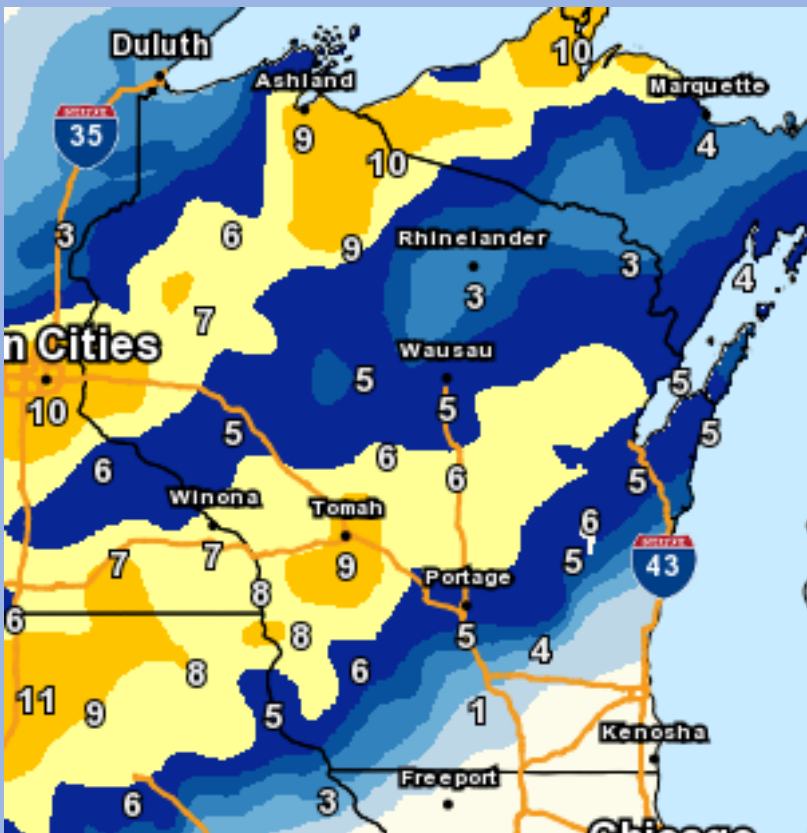


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

1

Groundhog's Day Winter Storm

Snowfall Amounts



Location	Amount
Cashton	11.2"
Viroqua	11.0"
Valley	11.0"
De Soto	10.8"
Kendall	10.0"
Mauston	10.0"
Osseo	9.5"
NWS La Crosse	9.5"
Tomah	9.5"

Location	Speed
Platteville	39mph
La Crosse	35mph
Viroqua	33mph

NWS La Crosse



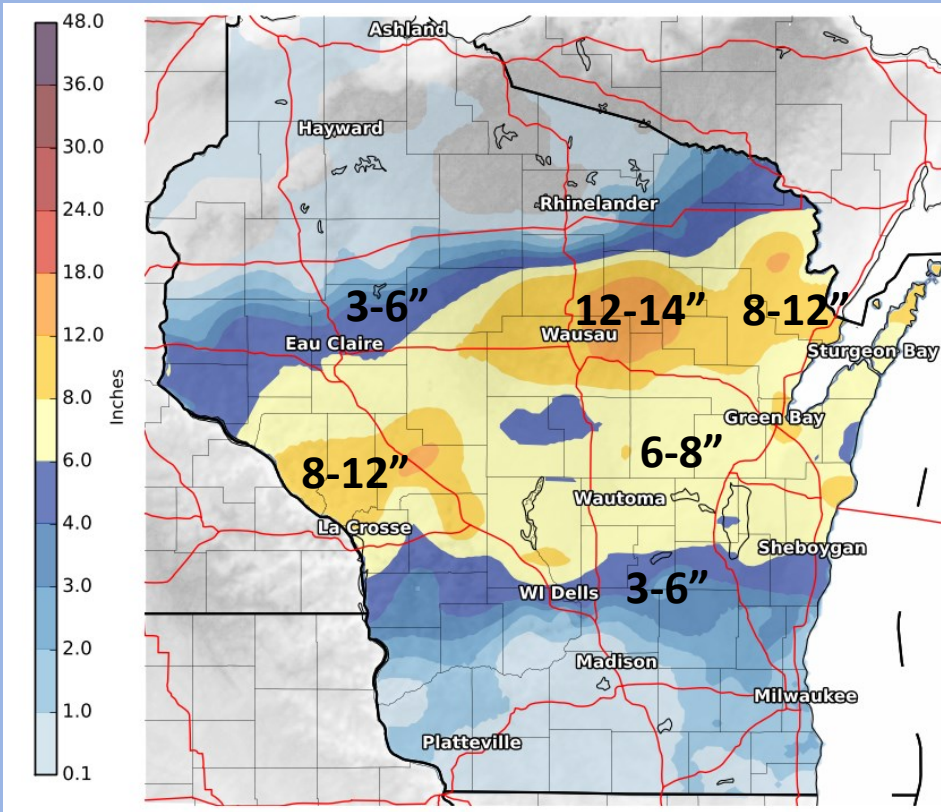
A potent winter storm produced heavy snowfall rates and strong winds which caused low visibilities. Some locations experienced high snowfall rates because of thundersnow as well! Winds gusted to between 25 and 40mph in western WI.



Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

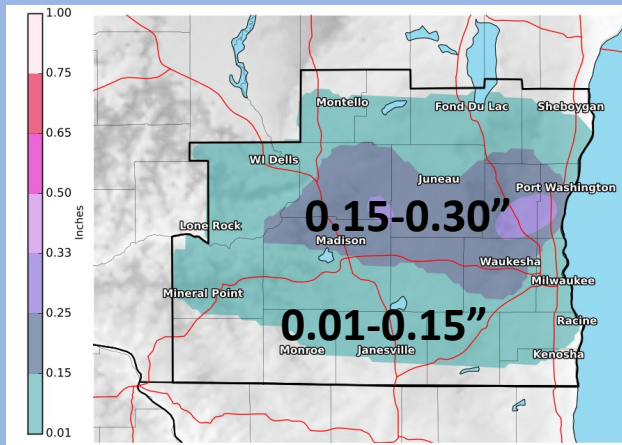
2 March 23-24th Winter Storm

Snowfall Amounts



Location	Amount
Summit Lake	13.0"
Athelstane	12.5"
Augusta	12.5"
Merrill	11.8"
Townsend	11.5"
White Lake	10.5"
Eau Claire	10.5"
Elk Mound	10.3"
Wausau	10.0"
Prescott	10.0"
Ephraim	10.0"
Wautoma	10.0"

Ice Amounts



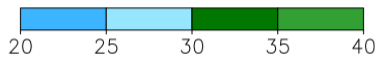
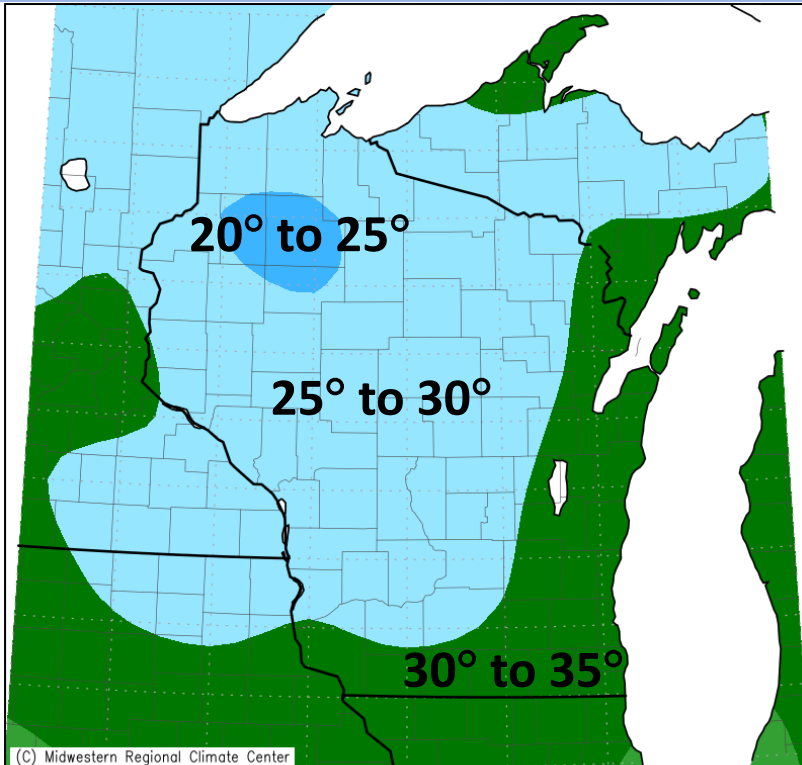
Heavy snow and ice fell in late March. The heaviest band went through central Wisconsin where up to a foot of snow fell! Freezing rain occurred in southern Wisconsin and caused icing of up to a quarter of an inch in spots.



Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

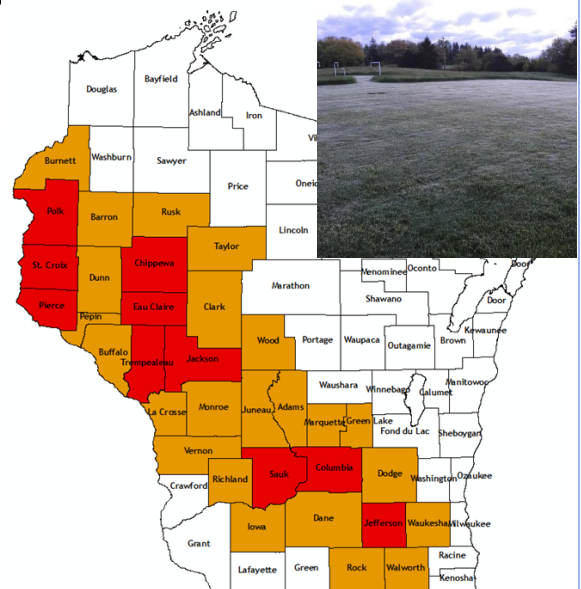
3 Late Spring Freeze: Fruit Crop Damage

Ave Minimum Temperatures: May 15



Location	Min Temp
Sparta	22°
Holcombe	22°
Friendship	23°
Hayward	23°
Couderay	23°
Wautoma	24°
Rice Lake	24°
Winter	24°
Gordon	24°
Rhineland	24°
Wisconsin Dells	25°

A late season hard freeze led to extensive crop damage across western to southern Wisconsin. Many fruits had blossomed before the hard freeze occurred. The counties in red on the right were declared natural disaster counties (orange-contiguous or adjoining).





Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

4

July 5th Squall Line & Tornadoes

Tornado #1: 2 mi NNW of Cream (Buffalo County)

July 5, 2016	9:10pm
EF Rating	EF-1
Est. Peak Winds	100mph
Path Length	0.5 miles
Max Width	300 yards



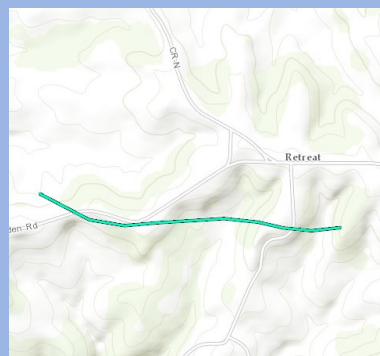
Tornado #2: 2 mi NNW of Waumandee (Buffalo County)

July 5, 2016	9:13pm
EF Rating	EF-1
Est. Peak Winds	105mph
Path Length	0.5 miles
Max Width	100 yards



Tornado #3: Near Retreat (Vernon County)

July 5, 2016	10:31pm
EF Rating	EF-0
Est. Peak Winds	80mph
Path Length	1.5 miles
Max Width	50 yards



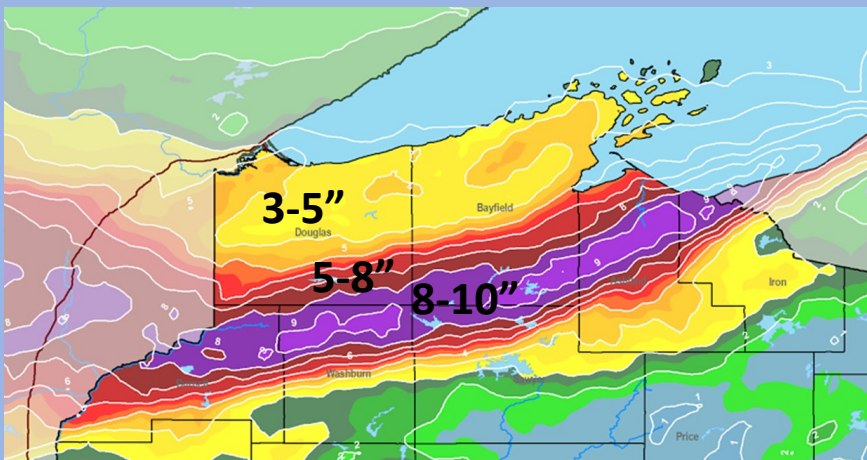


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

5

The Northwoods Flooding

Rainfall Amounts: July 11th



Location	Amount
Saxon	9.80"
Seeley	8.23"
Drummond	7.96"
Namekagon	7.63"
Danbury	7.58"
Minong	6.87"
Clam Lake	6.29"

Repeat thunderstorms lead to extensive flooding across far northern Wisconsin in mid July. Numerous roads were washed out from the flooding.



Hwy 2: Ashland County

Civil Air Patrol



Saxon Harbor

Iron County Sheriff Dept



Hwy 13: Highbridge

Wisconsin Emergency Management



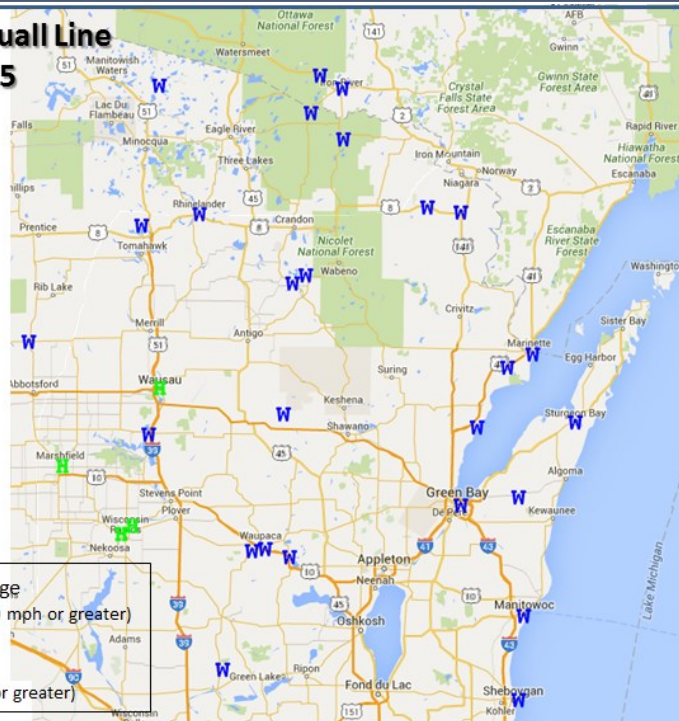
Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

6

July 21st Northern WI Squall Line

Morning Storm Reports

Morning Squall Line July 21, 2015



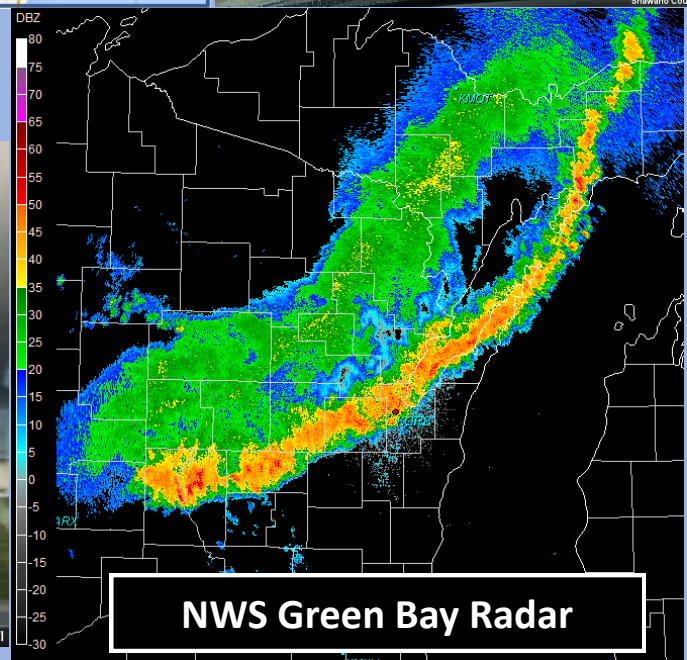
W = Wind Damage
(gusts near 60 mph or greater)
H = Large Hail
(1" diameter or greater)

Severe thunderstorms produced high winds that resulted in tree damage and power outages across much of northern Wisconsin during the morning hours of July 21st. In addition, a few homes and farms had minor damage from fallen trees.

Shawano County



Manitowoc Shelf Cloud



NWS Green Bay Radar

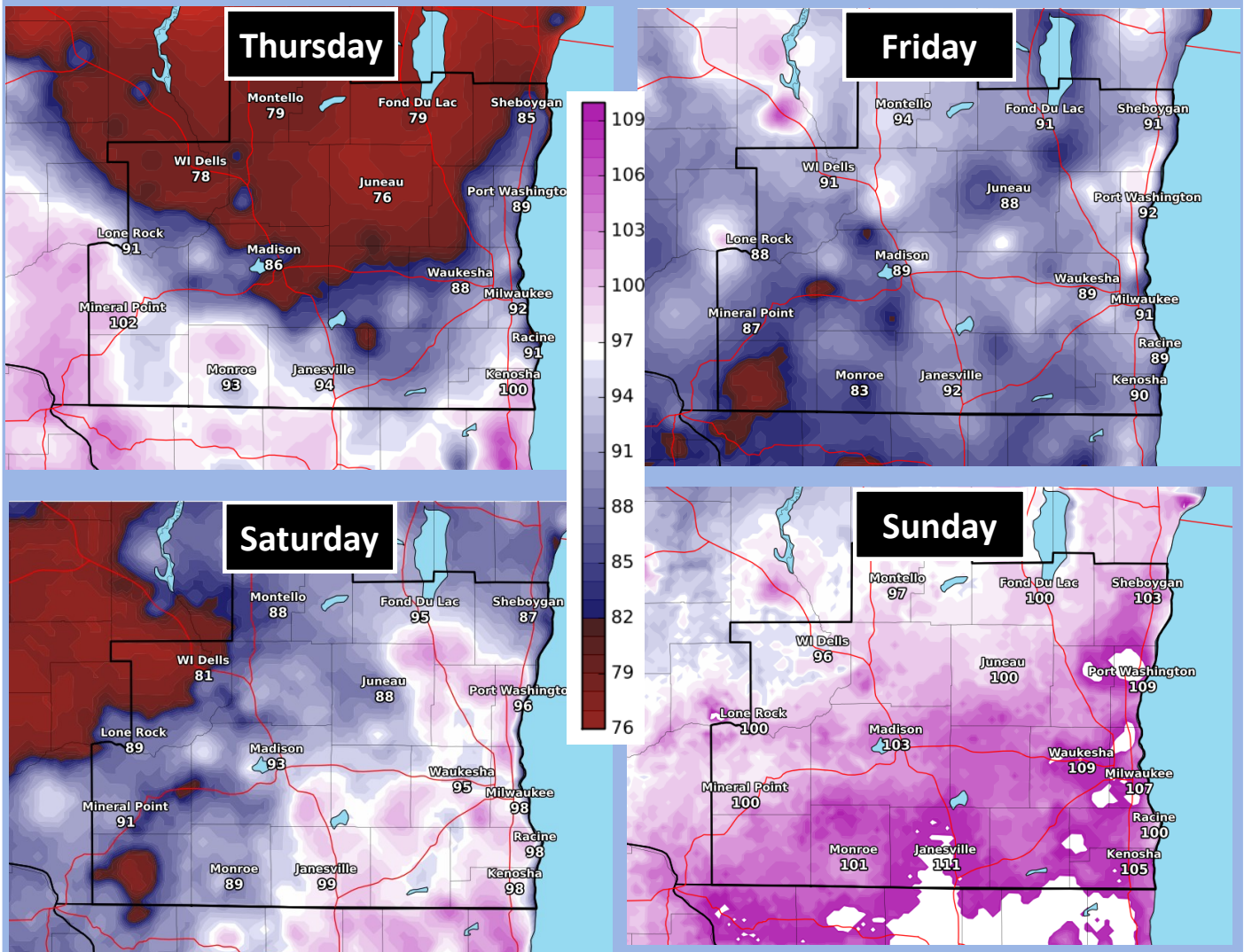


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

7

July 21st-24th Southern WI Heat

Maximum Heat Indices



A long period of hot and humid conditions set up across southern Wisconsin in late July. The worst of the 4-day period was on Sunday, July 24th when dew points climbed into the upper 70s/lower 80s which drove the heat index into the 100 to 115 degree range in portions of southeast Wisconsin.

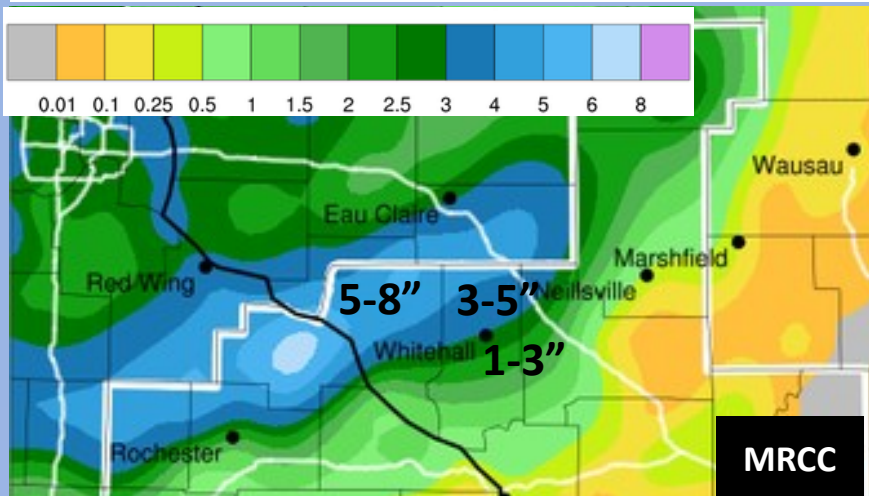


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

8

August 11th Flooding

Rainfall Amounts: August 11th



Location	Amount
Nelson	6.30"
Mondovi	5.97"
Urne	5.50"
Alma	5.06"
Augusta	4.90"
Stockholm	3.71"
Eau Claire	3.33"

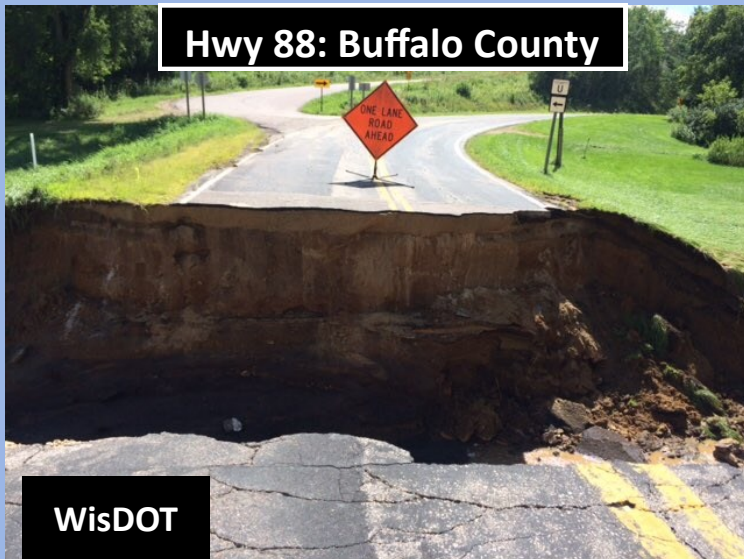
Rounds of thunderstorms brought heavy rain to parts of west central Wisconsin during the early morning hours. Extensive damage occurred to area highways and secondary roads, including culverts and bridges.



Cream

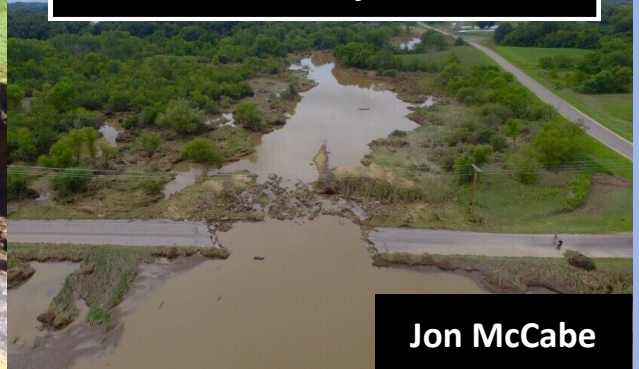
WisDOT

Hwy 88: Buffalo County



WisDOT

Gilmanton: Cnty B/Sand Rd



Jon McCabe

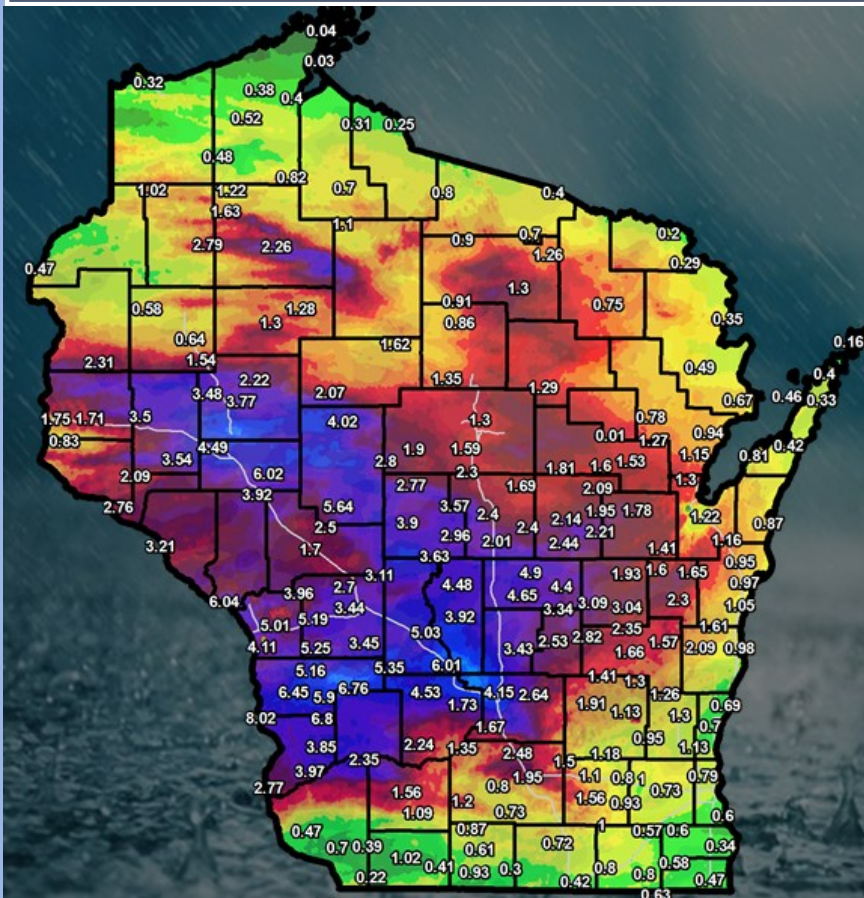


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

9

September 20-22nd Flooding

Rainfall Amounts: Sept 20-22



Location	Amount
Purdy	9.10"
Oxford	8.20"
Chippewa Falls	7.46"
La Farge	7.32"
Readstown	7.26"
Gays Mills	7.08"
Viroqua	7.06"
Neillsville	6.77"

Days of storms lead to widespread flooding through much of western Wisconsin. Damage to infrastructure, farm crops, homes, and businesses was widespread.

Ferryville: Hwy 35



WEM



Viola: Kickapoo River

Richland Co EM

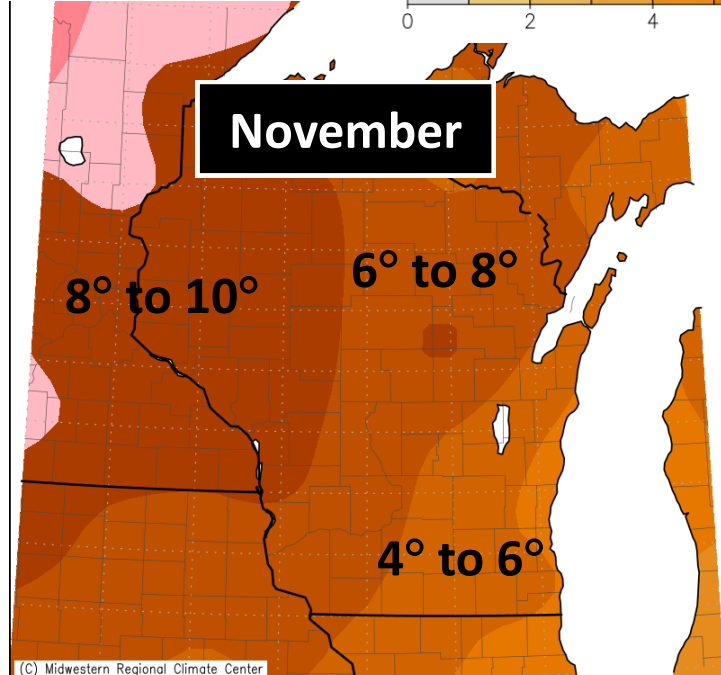
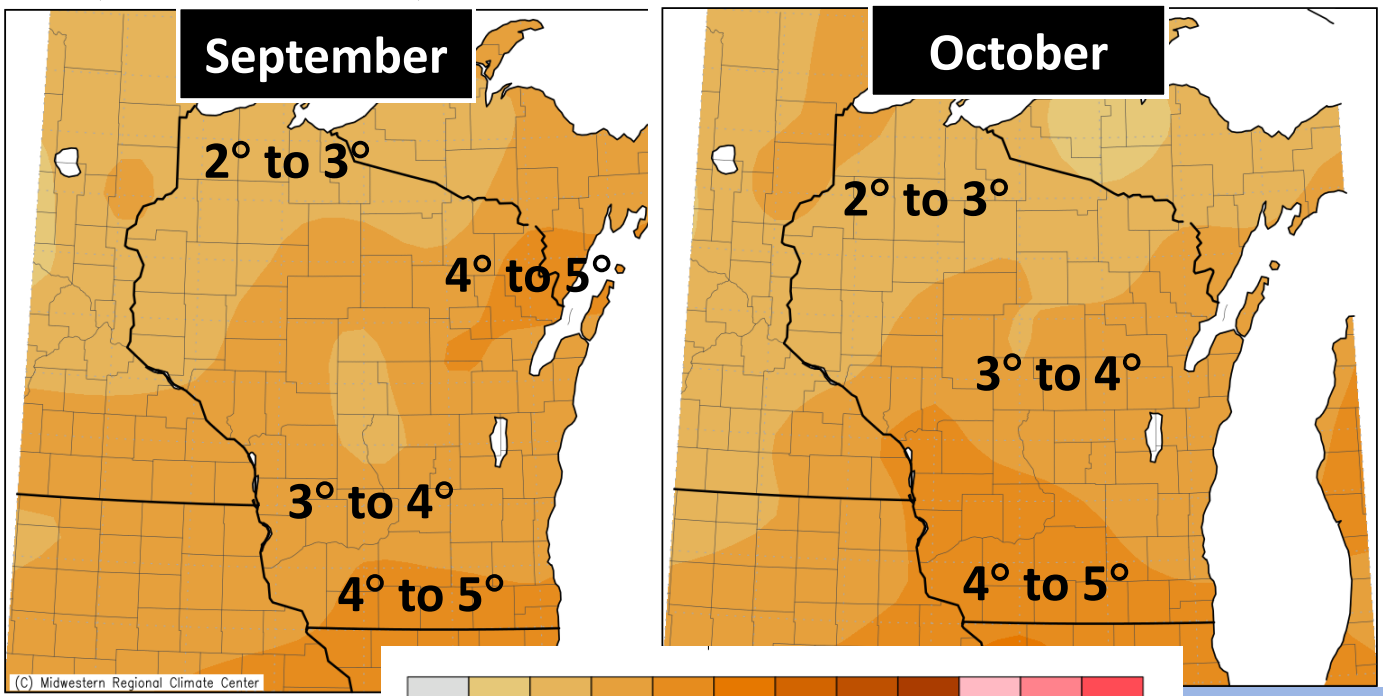


Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Stories of 2016

10

Warmer Than Normal Autumn

Average Temperature: How many degrees above normal?



The cold air stayed away for much of the autumn months with many sites not going below freezing until mid to late November! People enjoyed the low heating costs and extended golf season though some may not have wanted to keep mowing lawns that late in the year.

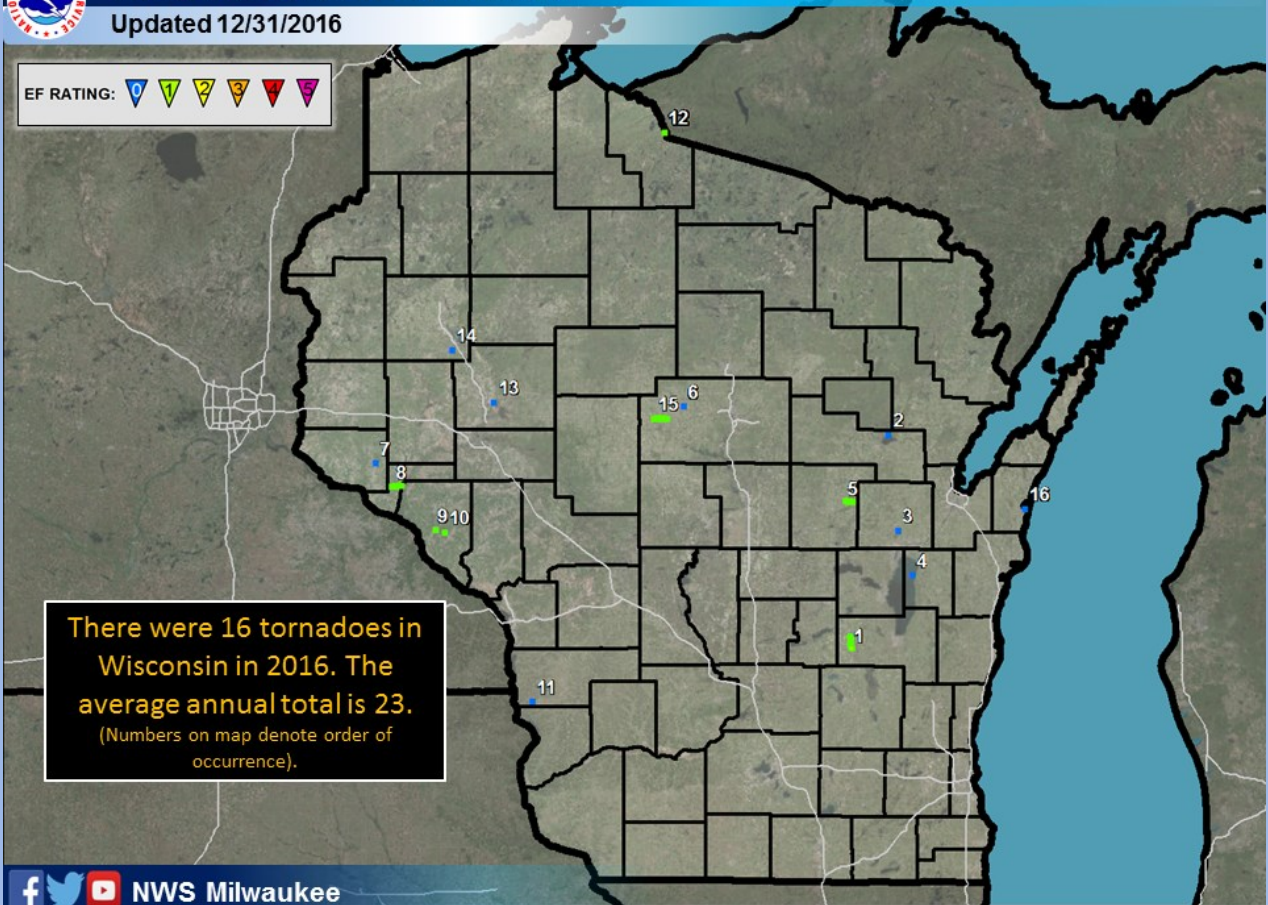
Graphics courtesy of the Midwest Regional Climate Center



2016 Wisconsin Tornadoes

Updated 12/31/2016

EF RATING:



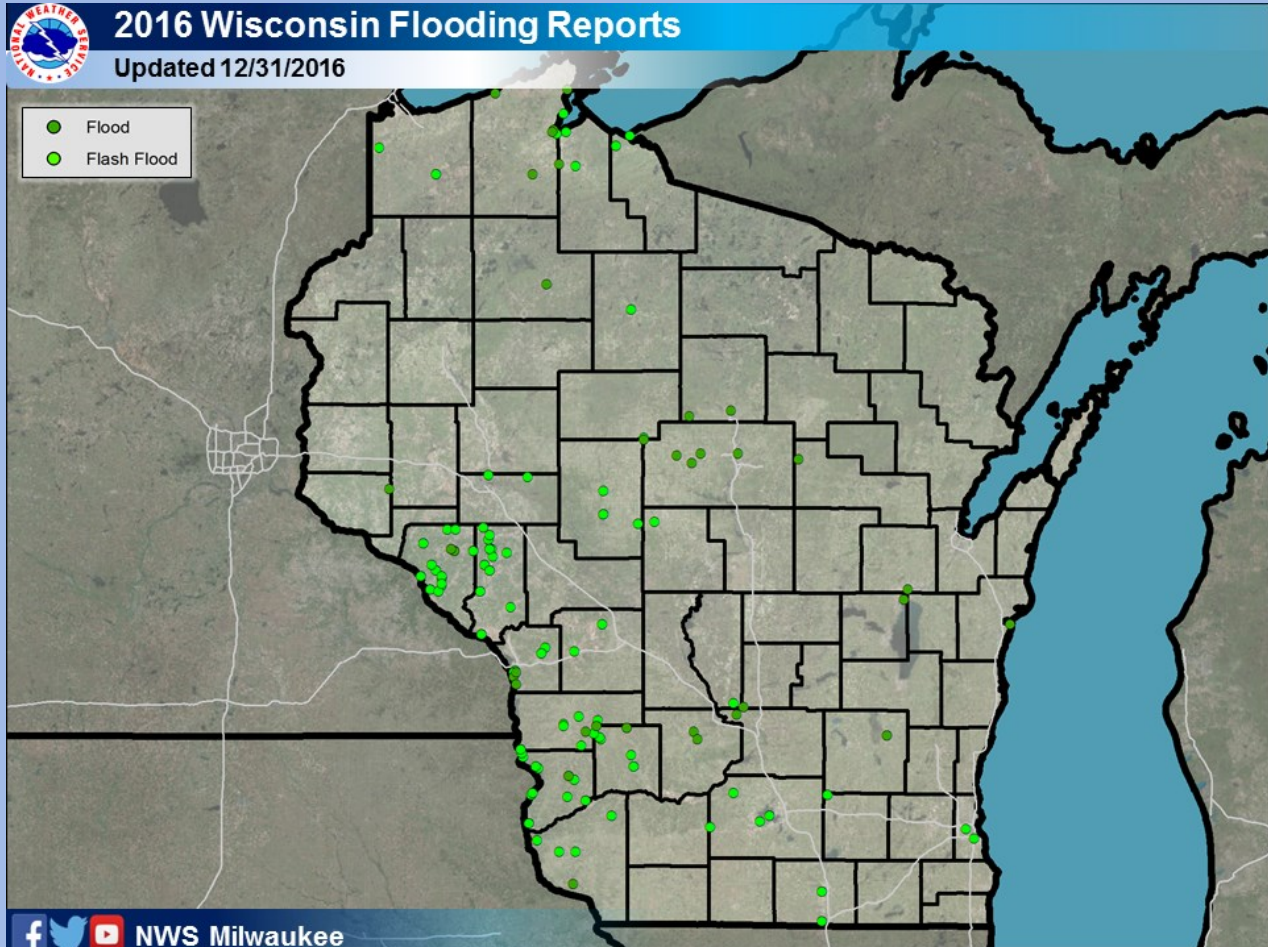
NWS Milwaukee



2016 Wisconsin Flooding Reports

Updated 12/31/2016

Flood
 Flash Flood



NWS Milwaukee

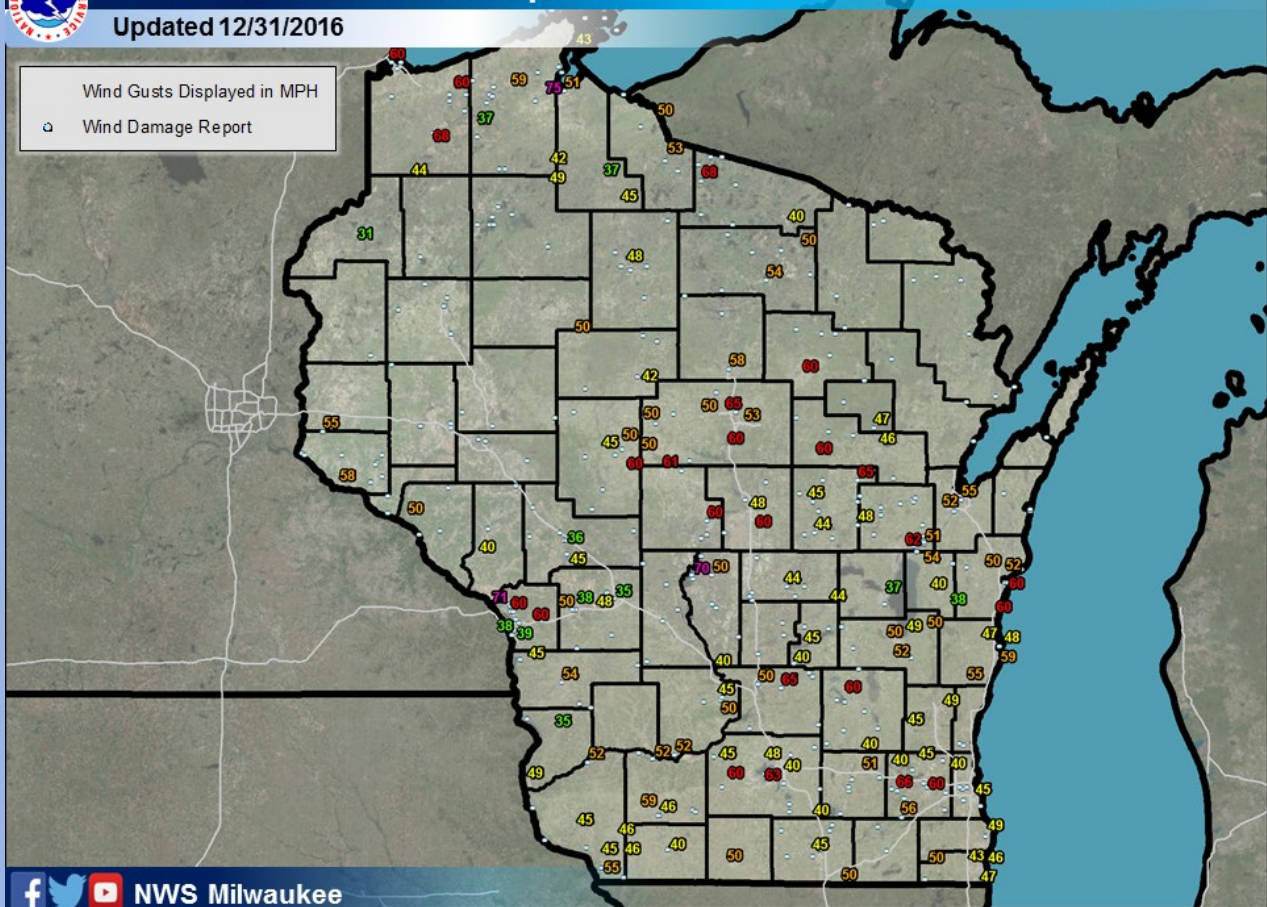


2016 Wisconsin Wind Reports

Updated 12/31/2016

Wind Gusts Displayed in MPH

Wind Damage Report



NWS Milwaukee

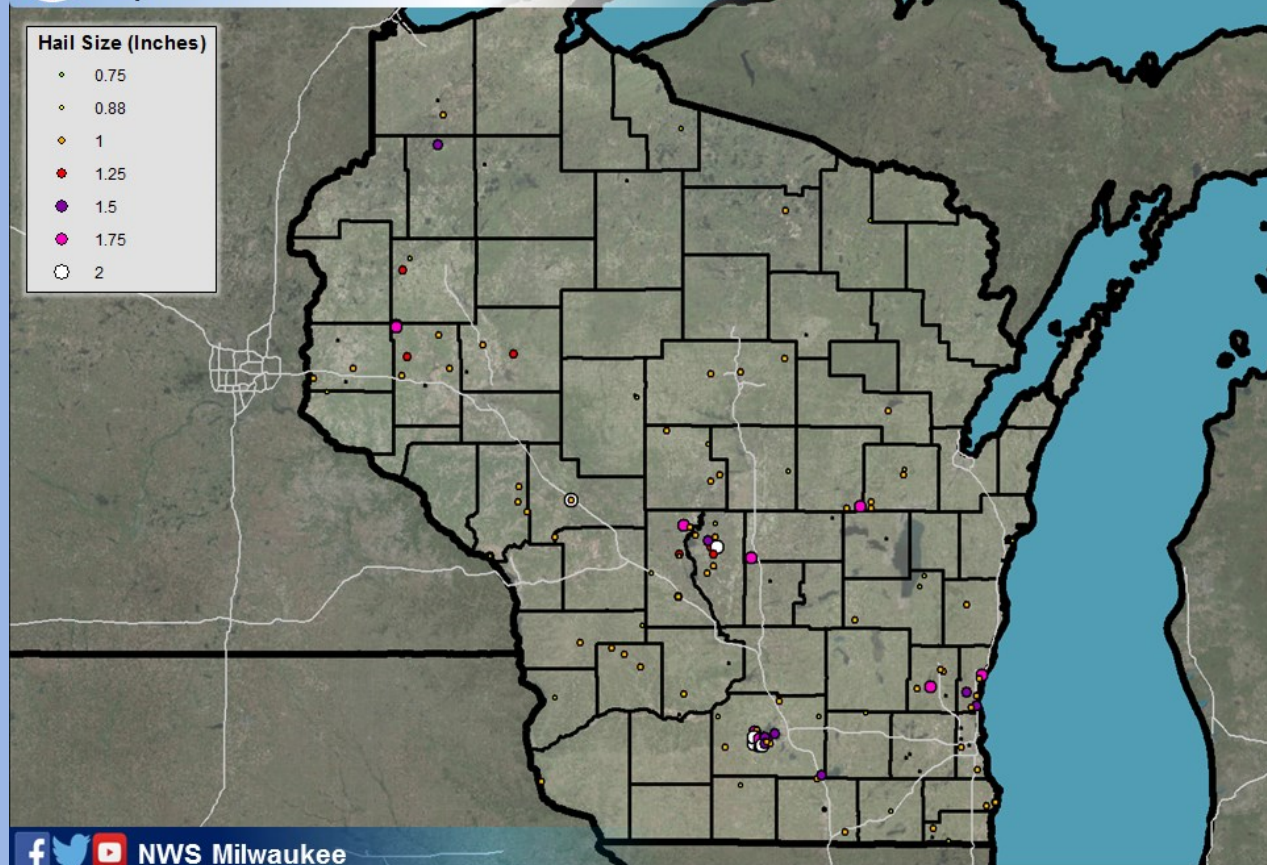


2016 Wisconsin Hail Reports

Updated 12/31/2016

Hail Size (Inches)

- 0.75
- 0.88
- ◊ 1
- 1.25
- 1.5
- 1.75
- 2



NWS Milwaukee