

National Weather Service Office in Melbourne, Florida Announces Forecast Zone Changes for Volusia County

WHY: Climatologically, the weather across eastern and western portions of Volusia County can be drastically different, especially during the cool season, and during tropical storm and hurricane events. By adjusting the zones, opportunities for improvements associated with weather hazards and the communication of those weather hazards becomes possible.

For example, this change will condense the Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) for Storm Surge to the impacted area and prevent significant over dissemination via WEA for non-impacted, inland sections. Currently, a larger area of the county will receive the storm surge warning, but with the reconfiguration, only the smaller, coastal zone will receive the storm surge warning. As a result, the communication of the threat is more appropriate.

Another example, during the cool season, a frost advisory or freeze warning may only be needed for the inland part of the county. The reconfiguration will once again allow for the advisory or warning for the inland portion.

WHERE: Here are the points for the new zone boundary in Volusia County and you will find graphics of the adjustment below.

Northern Point: Lat: 29.265913, Lon: -81.151200

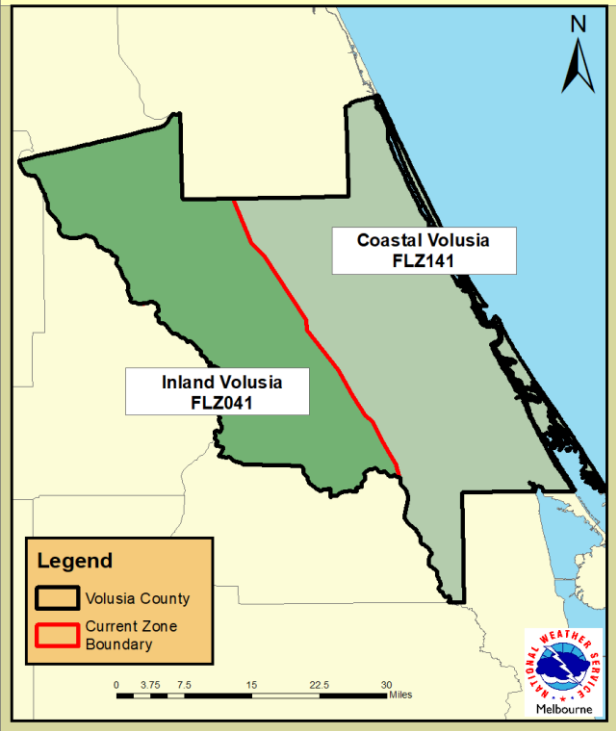
Southern Point: Lat: 28.790311, Lon: -80.967895.

WHEN: The zone implementation will occur at 2:00 PM EDT on May 1st, 2018.

IS THIS NORMAL? Yes. Local NWS offices throughout the country have completed reconfigurations to fit their local weather differences. These reconfigurations have shown to provide increased forecast detail, especially when dealing with localized weather and tropical conditions.

More Details: Below are two maps that will help in visualizing the changes described above.

Current Volusia County Zone Configuration



New Volusia County Zone Configuration

