



The Ozark Ambassador

National Weather Service Springfield, Missouri

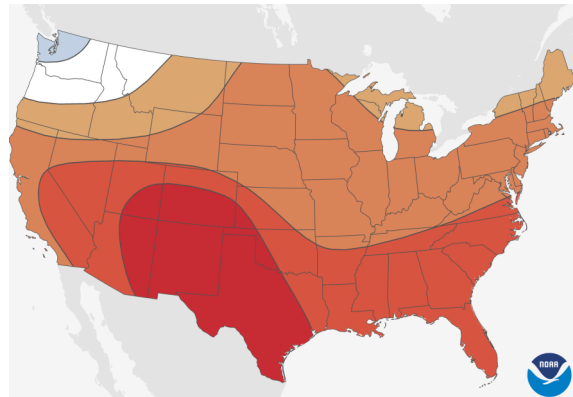


Preparing For Spring

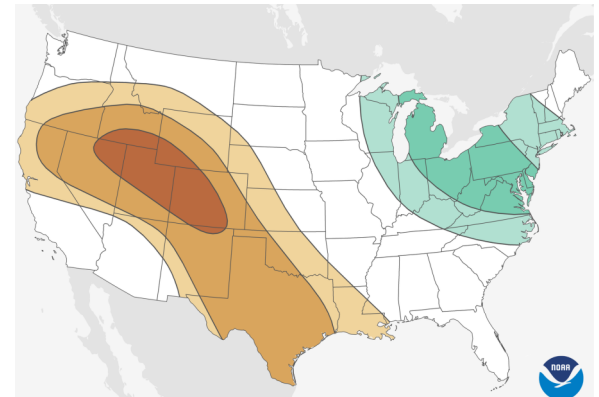
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Spring Outlook

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Probability (percent chance)
cooler than normal equal chances warmer than normal



Probability (percent chance)
drier than normal equal chances wetter than normal

Above-average temperatures across Missouri for this Spring. Equal chances of below, near, or above-average precipitation. For more information visit: [Spring 2021 Climate Outlook](#).

Ozark Ambassador Team

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Spring Weather Websites

[Weather Story](#)

[Situation Report](#)

[Storm Prediction Center](#)

[Weather Prediction Center](#)

[Climate Prediction Center](#)

Ways To Prepare

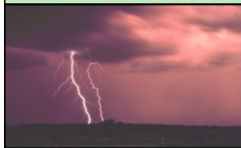







12 WAYS TO PREPARE

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | |
| Sign up for Alerts and Warnings | Make a Plan | Save for a Rainy Day | Practice Emergency Drills | Test Family Communication Plan | Safeguard Documents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | |
| Plan with Neighbors | Make Your Home Safer | Know Evacuation Routes | Assemble or Update Supplies | Get Involved in Your Community | Document and Insure Property |

Severe Weather Products

Severe Weather Risk Categories

| THUNDERSTORMS (no label) | 1 - MARGINAL (MRGL) | 2 - SLIGHT (SLGT) | 3 - ENHANCED (ENH) | 4 - MODERATE (MDT) | 5 - HIGH (HIGH) |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| No severe* thunderstorms expected | Isolated severe thunderstorms possible | Scattered severe storms possible | Numerous severe storms possible | Widespread severe storms likely | Widespread severe storms expected |
| Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms | Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity | Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible | More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense | Long-lived, widespread and intense | Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Watches and Warnings

Severe Thunderstorm Watch Means **Be Prepared.**
Damaging wind and large hail are possible.

- Have a way to receive weather warnings
- Check for forecast updates
- Have a shelter planned
- Stay weather ready




weather.gov/thunderstorm

Severe Thunderstorm Warning Means **TAKE ACTION!**
Damaging winds and large hail are expected.

- Take shelter indoors immediately
- Use caution while driving
- Check forecast updates
- Stay weather ready




weather.gov/thunderstorm

Tornado Watch Means **BE PREPARED.**
Tornadoes May Form.



- Plan where to take shelter if needed
- Be aware of updates for your area
- Stay weather-ready




weather.gov

Tornado Warning Means **TAKE ACTION!**
A Tornado is Expected.

- Take shelter indoors immediately
- If driving, find the nearest shelter
- Check forecast updates

weather.gov

Knowing Your Safe Place

Tornadoes

If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (such as a closet or interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. Do not open windows. If you are outside and a tornado is approaching, get into a ditch or gully. If possible, lie flat and cover your head with your arms. Listen to NOAA Weather Radio, media, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instruction.



Damaging Winds

Move to the middle of your home or basement, away from windows and glass doors. Try to take cover under a staircase or a heavy piece of furniture. Do not stay in a manufactured home during severe winds. They are easily overturned by high winds, and flying debris can puncture their light frames and exteriors. If you live in an area prone to severe winds, you may want to build a safe room in your home.

Flooding

If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Never drive around barricades. Local responders use them to safely direct traffic out of flooded areas. Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning. If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, then stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, then seek refuge on the roof. If trapped in a building, then go to its highest level. Do not climb into a closed attic.



How to Prepare for Emergencies

1. Create a Plan

Your family might not be together when emergency happens. That's why it is important to have a plan in place. Sit down and talk to your family about how you will reach each other in different situations.

You should plan for two situations – staying home or leaving. Deciding whether it is best to stay or go depends on the type of emergency. Officials may tell you what you need to do. In some cases, limited communication and information may require you to decide what is best for you and your family.

Know where to go if you have to leave. Sometimes it may not be safe to stay in your home. Plan where your family can meet. Know where you will go and how you will get there if you have to leave your home.



2. Prepare a Kit

During an emergency, you may not be able to get food or water for days or weeks, and your electricity may not be working. The following items should be part of your emergency kit and kept in a container that can be easily carried if you need to leave home:

Water - families should set aside one gallon of water per person per day, to last three days.

Canned or dried food - families should set aside a three-day supply of food per person. The food should be nonperishable items that don't need to be cooked.

Other important items include a battery-powered radio, flashlight, extra batteries for the radio and flashlight, list of prescription medications and a first-aid kit.



3. Be Informed

It is important to stay calm in an emergency. Get as much information about the situation as possible. If there is no electricity, make sure to have a battery-powered radio with extra batteries so you can listen for updates and instructions.

City, county, and state officials have developed emergency plans. In the event of an actual emergency, it's important to follow their instructions and advice. They will provide you with the latest information.

Identify how local authorities will notify you during a disaster and how you will get information, whether through local radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio stations or channels. Know the difference between different weather alerts such as watches and warnings and what actions to take in each.



Sending Storm Reports

What to Report?

Hail: Diameter of the largest stones. Looking for reports of near severe limits (1.00 in) or greater. Report in terms of coins or actual measurements. Avoid reports such as “marbles” which could be many sizes.

Damaging Winds: Strong winds or damage. Winds 50 mph or greater. Any tree or structure damage. Measured wind speed. Even if “just” limbs down, we’d like to know! Include tree or limb diameter, tree health, uprooted or snapped.

Tornadoes: A tornado, funnel cloud, rotating wall cloud, or damage. Note the rotation direction, movement of the storm, and your location with reference to storm.

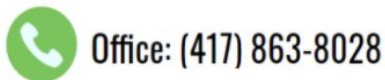
Flooding: Washed out or flooded roads, rain measurements. People or vehicles stalled or swept away by flowing water. River or streams out of their banks.

Send pictures with your reports!



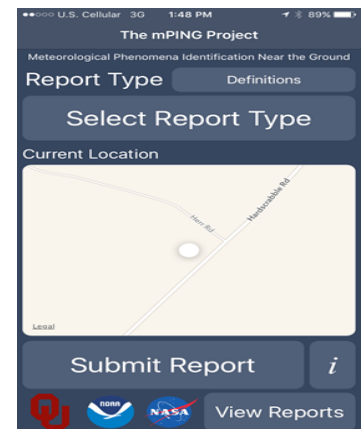
Ways to Send Reports

Tag us on social media or call us!



[INWS Storm Reports](#)

[mPING ProjecApp](#)



Reporting Tips and Reminders

Reports can save lives!

Let us know **WHO** you are, **WHAT** occurred, **WHEN** was it, **WHERE** was it.

Reports that come in as the storm is in progress are much more valuable than reports that come in hours after the storm is done. NWS relays this information through warnings. Additionally, reports can trigger or keep warnings active.

Building a Weather-Ready Nation

Weather-Ready Nation Ambassadors

BUILDING A WEATHER-READY NATION



[Click here to Learn More about Becoming an Ambassador](#)

Follow the National Weather Service

Be a Force of Nature

Help Build a Weather-Ready Nation



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contact.sgf@noaa.gov



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