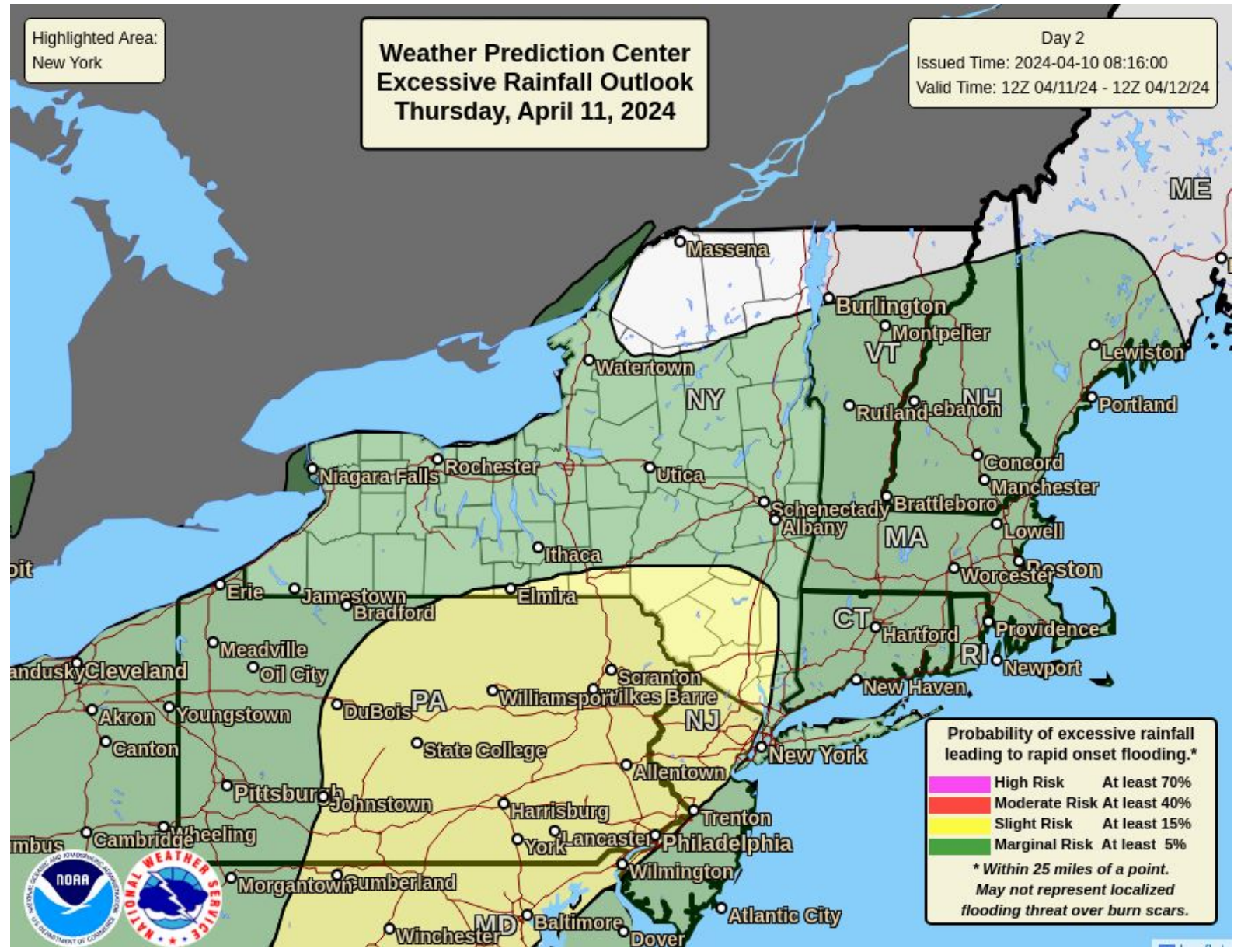


Excessive Rainfall Outlook – What does it mean?



- **Excessive Rainfall Outlooks** show the probability that the forecasted rainfall will exceed flash flood guidance.
- **Flash Flood Guidance** is the rainfall in any 1-hour, 3-hour or 6-hour period that would result in rivers and streams up to bank full conditions, so if exceeded flooding would be expected to occur.
- **Excessive Rainfall Outlooks** are issued by the Weather Prediction Center

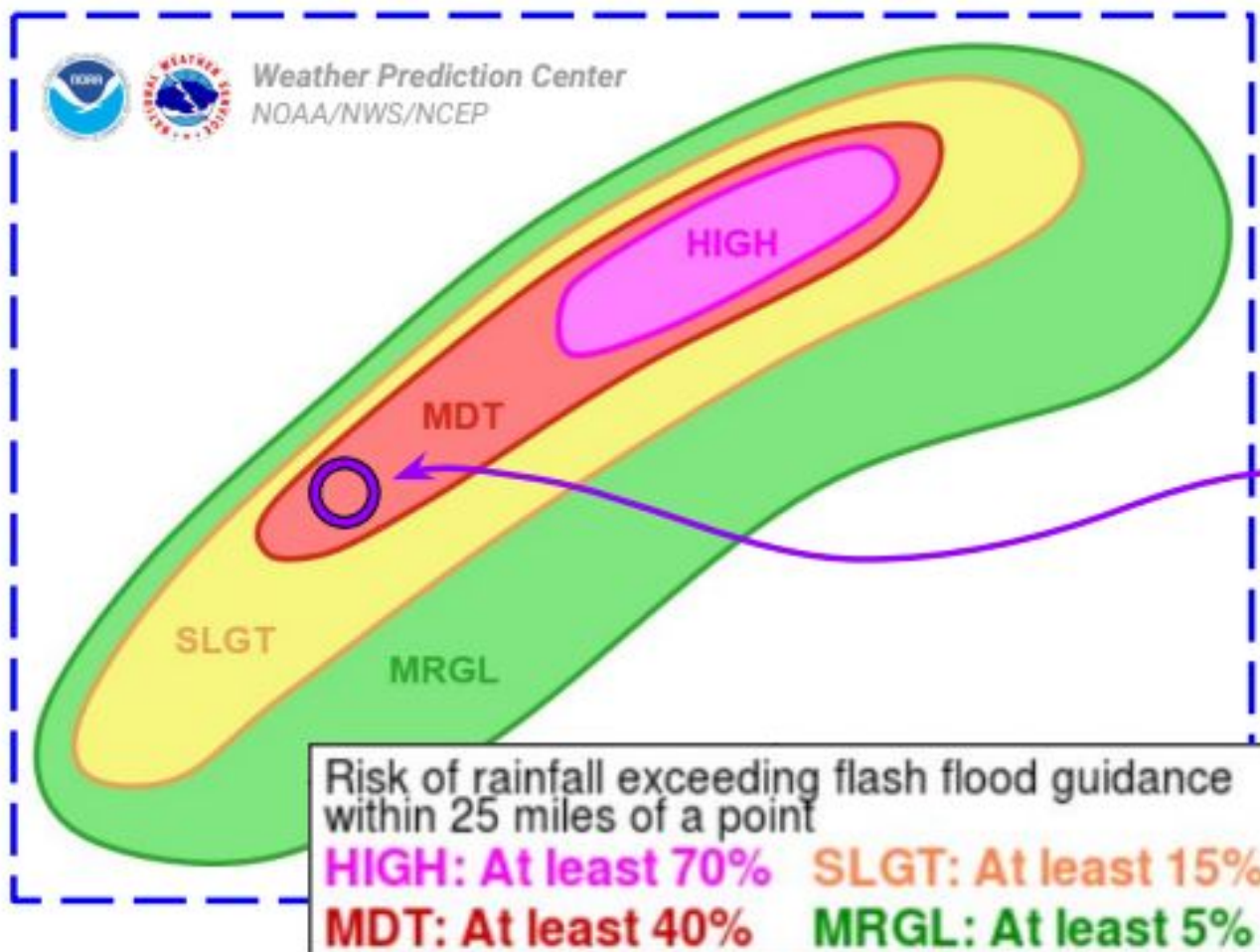
Risk Category	Probability of Rainfall Exceeding Flash Flood Guidance	Issued for
Marginal (MRGL)	At least 5%	Days 1-3
Slight (SLGT)	At least 15%	Days 1-5
Moderate (MDT)	At least 40%	Days 1-5
High (HIGH)	At least 70%	Day 1-3

Note: Flash floods are rare events at any one specific location, and therefore, the probability of a flash flood is low even when forecasters are confident that flash flooding will occur within the outlook area.

Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

<p>No Area/Label</p> <p>Flash floods are generally not expected.</p> <p>www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov @NWSWPC</p>	<p>MARGINAL (MRGL)</p> <p>Isolated flash floods possible</p> <p>Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.</p>	<p>SLIGHT (SLGT)</p> <p>Scattered flash floods possible</p> <p>Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.</p>	<p>MODERATE (MDT)</p> <p>Numerous flash floods likely</p> <p>Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.</p>	<p>HIGH (HIGH)</p> <p>Widespread flash floods expected</p> <p>Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.</p>	
<p>Flash flooding near me?</p>	<p>Flash Flooding NO Flash Flooding</p>				
<p>WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER</p>					

INTERPRETING THE EXCESSIVE RAINFALL OUTLOOK



IN THE BIG PICTURE

- Orients you to potential problem spots for intense rainfall and resulting flash flooding
- Where is the risk relatively higher?

AT A LOCAL LEVEL

- Describes the probability (definition left) of intense rainfall leading to flash flooding within an area approximately the size of a large metro area or county/parish.
- "What are the chances I'll be dealing with flash flooding today?"

Characterizing High Risk Days



Based on records over the past 11 years, we can say:

WPC High Risks are a strong indicator of a potentially deadly and damaging flash flood day

46% have at least 1 fatality or injury

Compared to *23%* for Moderate Risk Days

62% have at least \$1 million in damages

Compared to *33%* for Moderate Risk Days



WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

ERO High Risk Statistics, Version 3
Updated February 12, 2022

New York State has only had 3 high risk days since 2016, so be prepared to act when you see “High Risk”



HIGH RISK OF EXCESSIVE RAINFALL

Potentially deadly and damaging flash flood day. Pay attention!

-  Make sure emergency alerts are enabled on your smart phone for urgent Flash Flood Warnings
-  Have multiple ways to receive a warning if you live in an area vulnerable to flash flooding
-  Consider postponing non-essential road travel. The majority of flood deaths occur with vehicles.

  **Weather Prediction Center**
College Park, Maryland

Background photo: Lumberton, NC; FEMA Photo by Jocelyn Augustino

Excessive Rainfall Outlook – Issuance Times



Albany, NY
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Outlook	Issuance Time	Valid Time Period
Day 1	430 am EDT 330 am EST	8 am to 8 am next day 7 am to 7 am next day
	Noon EDT 11 am EST	Noon to 8 am next day 11 am to 7 am next day
	9 pm EDT 8 pm EST	9 pm to 8 am next day 8 pm to 7 am next day
Day 2	430 am EDT 330 am EST	8 am Day 2 - 8 am Day 3 7 am Day 2 - 7 am Day 3
	430 pm EDT 330 pm EST	Update to already issued Day 2 Outlook
Day 3	430 am EDT 330 am EST	8 am Day 3 - 8 am Day 4 7 am Day 3 - 7 am Day 4
	430 pm EDT 330 pm EST	Update to already issued Day 3 Outlook
Day 4	130 am EDT 1230 am EST	8 am Day 4 - 8 am Day 5 7 am Day 4 - 7 am Day 5
	130 pm EDT 1230 pm EST	Update to already issued Day 4 Outlook
Day 5	130 am EDT 1230 am EST	8 am Day 5 - 8 am Day 6 7 am Day 5 - 7 am Day 6
	130 pm EDT 1230 pm EST	Update to already issued Day 5 Outlook