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Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Charleston SC
653 PM EDT Tue Oct 20 2026

...REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CHARLESTON FROST/FREEZE PROGRAM...

The National Weather Service in Charleston will issue watches, warnings and advisories for frost and freeze conditions across Southeast South Carolina and parts of Southeast Georgia north of the Altamaha River during the growing season. The local growing season runs from March through November based on climatology.

The following are the products we issue and their associated criteria:

...Freeze Watch...
Freeze watches are issued when there is a 50 percent or greater probability that low temperatures will drop to 32 degrees or lower during the growing season, usually within 12 to 48 hours.

...Freeze Warning...
Freeze warnings are issued when there is an 80 percent or greater probability that low temperatures will drop to 32 degrees or lower during the growing season, usually within 12 to 24 hours.

...Frost Advisory...
Frost advisories are issued when there is an 80 percent or greater probability that conditions will support the development of scattered or widespread frost during the growing season. Advisories are typically not issued for patchy frost, except possibly during unusually warm periods.

If a freeze occurs across all of Southeast South Carolina and northern portions of Southeast Georgia prior to November 30, frost and freeze products will be discontinued for the remainder of the season for the entire area. Even if a freeze does not occur prior to the end of November for the entire area, frost and freeze products will still be discontinued beginning December 1 until the growing season effectively resumes on March 1 next year.

Detailed information on first freeze dates for our area can be found on our website:

https://www.weather.gov/media/chs/climate/AverageFirstLastFreezeDates.pdf

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