

High River Levels Observed, New Rises Possible

What's New?

- High river levels and flooding are ongoing
- Rain in the forecast through this weekend will likely cause changes to the river forecasts
- <u>Considerable uncertainty in forecast</u> <u>rainfall through this weekend</u>
- <u>Mississippi River</u>: snowmelt runoff moving down the river, crested earlier this week or is cresting now
 - Renewed rises are possible
 - Most likely outcome Minor to Moderate flood levels
- <u>Local Rivers</u>: a slower fall or renewed rises are possible for many area rivers after rainfall this weekend.



Analyzed Snow Depth: March 26st, 2020

Runoff from snowpack will impact the Mississippi River in April. New snowmelt runoff not expected to cause significant rises alone. Degree of impact to river levels will depend on accompanied rainfall.



Current Status of River Forecasts – 3/26/2020

River levels are high with flooding ongoing or expected along portions of the Mississippi River and some tributary rivers (Wapsipinicon, Cedar, & Rock,).

Snowpack remains over the northern parts of the Mississippi River watershed.

 Widespread 2" to 4" of liquid equivalent, with isolated areas up to 6" → Near to Above Normal

Soils: Wetter than normal conditions persist, especially over the northern half of the region.

Rivers: Running at levels above normal due recent rain and snowmelt moving through the river systems.

Temperatures are now looking to be near to below normal through the first week of April. With normal temperatures over the snowpack in the 40s, melting of the snow will occur. Precipitation trends through the first half of April will be important to the overall impact of this water as it moves through the system.

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook:

Week 2: Temp/Precip Outlook / Risk of Hazardous Weather Weeks 3-4: Temp/Precip Outlook



Precipitation this weekend:

- Considerable uncertainty in amounts through Sunday
- 2 main rounds of rain. Amounts of rainfall will impact river levels/forecasts.
- Potential outcomes →
 - Minimal or no further rises, but levels hold steady longer rather than receding
 - Rises on many rivers. Minor to Moderate flooding on the Mississippi River. Local rivers more uncertainty with bulk of expected rains outside of the local area.

Precipitation Forecast through Sunday Morning



Latest 3-Month Probabilistic Outlook Summary (product link above)

- High river levels ongoing and soils still wet
- Snow still in Mississippi River basin will bring additional flows, but without corresponding rainfall should not cause significant rises.
- Heavy spring rains will be the driver for additional flooding.
- Until soils are able to dry out, flood risk will remain above normal.

Stay up to date by reading the daily forecast discussion from NWS Quad Cities (box is the link). Hydrology Section at bottom.

Factors leading to Flood Potential	Link to Image of Information
River Levels	USGS WaterWatch
Soil Moisture	CPC Soil Moisture
Snowpack/Liquid Content in the Snowpack	<u>Snow/Liquid Equivalent</u> <u>Analysis</u>
Rate of Snowmelt	<u>24, 48, & 72</u> hr Snowmelt
3-Month Weather Outlook	April-June Outlook

Quad Cities Area Forecast Discussion

https://www.weather.gov/dvn/Flood2020 www.weather.gov/dvn/2020_springfloodoutlook

The National Weather Service urges those with interests in flooding to stay tuned to additional communications going through the spring season.