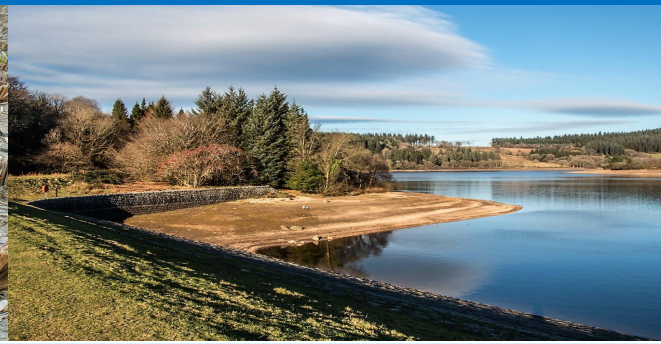
Drought Information Statement for Southern Indiana and Central Kentucky

Valid October 26, 2023

Issued By: WFO Louisville KY

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated at least once a month or when drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/lmk/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the Midwest and Ohio Valley

- Drought conditions have held steady for the past couple of weeks in most of southern Indiana and central Kentucky.

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): South central Indiana and most of north central Kentucky
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): South central Kentucky and portions of east central Kentucky

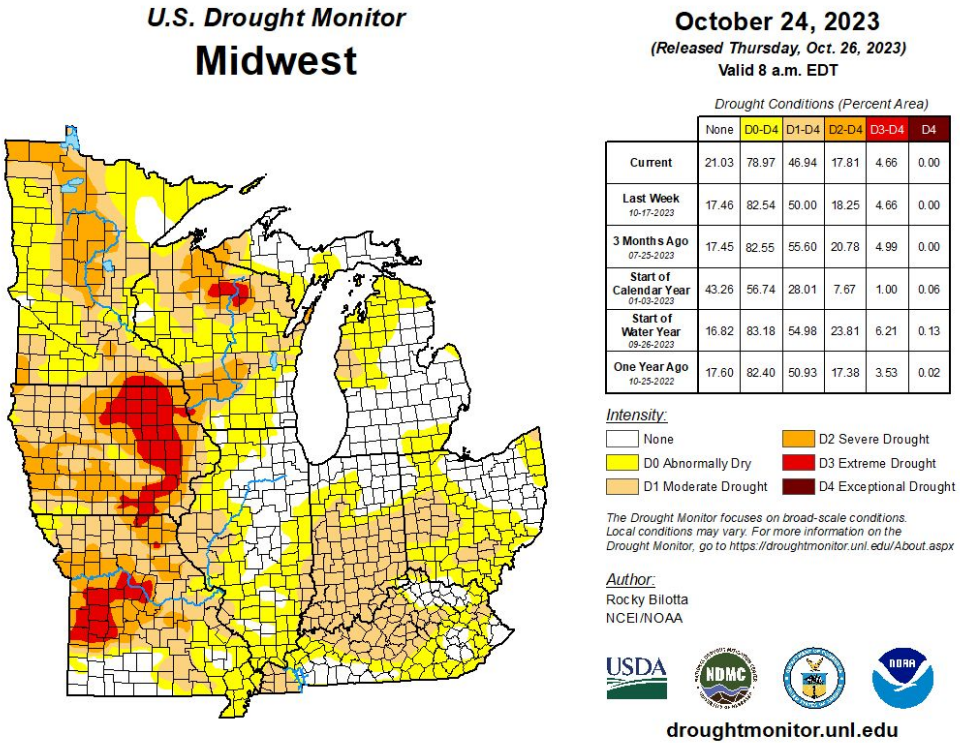


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT October 24

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for the Midwest and Ohio Valley

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
  - Over the past month there has been a slight southward advancement of moderate drought from the lower Ohio Valley to the southern and eastern Blue Grass
  - Periodic rains brought improved conditions to northern Kentucky

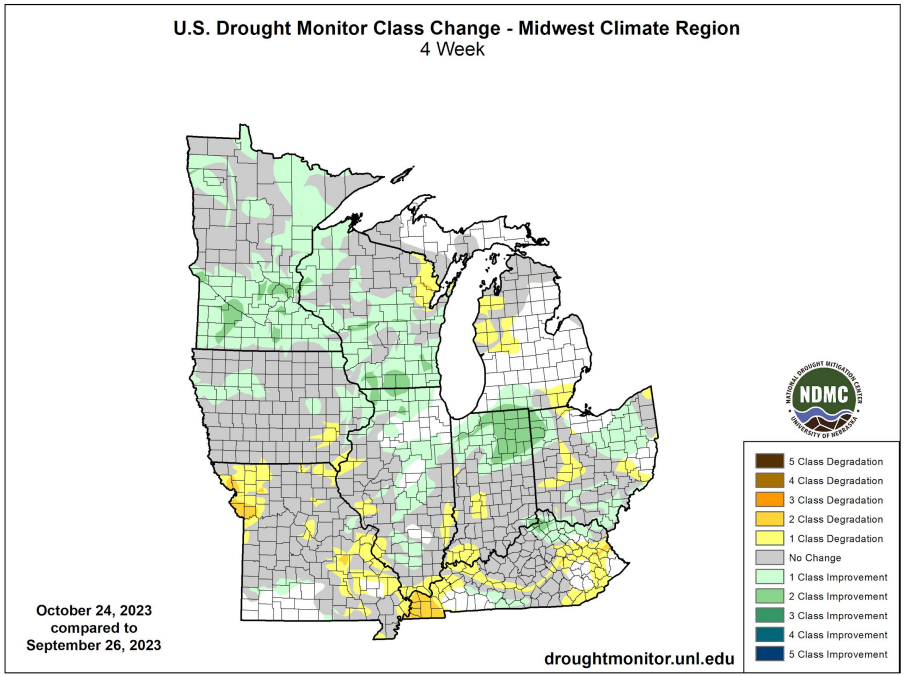
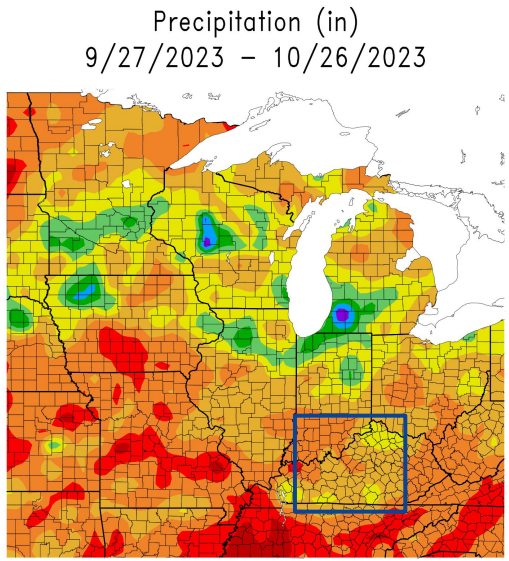


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT October 24.

Precipitation

- Precipitation over southern Indiana and central Kentucky has been below normal over the past 30 days.



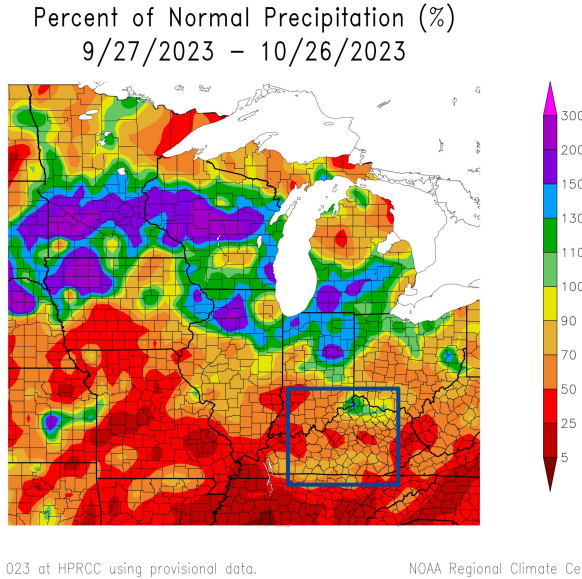
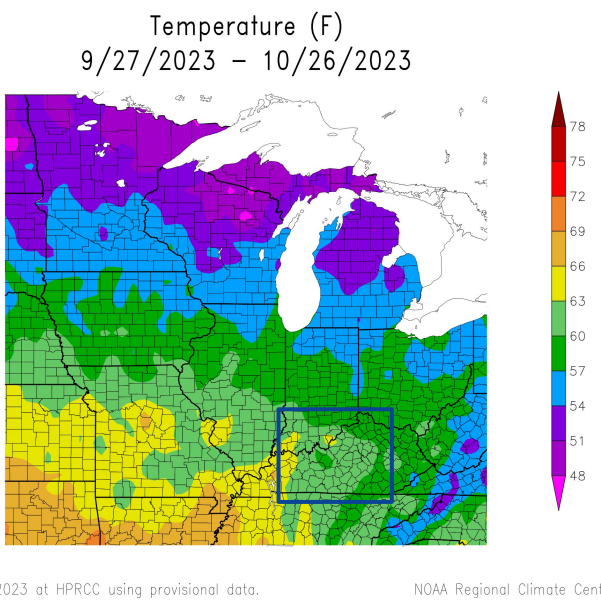


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for the Midwest and Ohio Valley
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Midwest and Ohio Valley
Data Courtesy Midwest Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending October 26, 2023

Temperature

- Temperatures have generally hovered around normal in October, though there was a significant warm-up from the 24th through the 26th.
- Temperature departures from normal have been moderate, with no extreme temperatures during the past month.



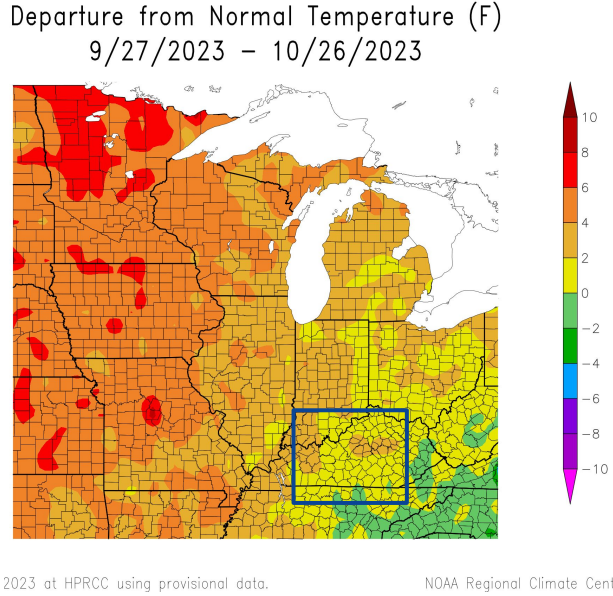


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy Midwest Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending October 26, 2023

Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit Condition Monitoring Observer Reports (CMOR) and view the Drought Impacts Reporter

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows are running below normal for several locations, especially in central Kentucky. Dry weather in southern Indiana and central Kentucky has had a negative impact on the already low flow in the Mississippi River, which has led to exposed sand bars and increased barge rates.

Agricultural Impacts

- Pastureland and farm ponds will need to be carefully managed. The corn harvest is nearing completion in Kentucky but is lagging behind in Indiana. About half of the topsoil and subsoil in Kentucky is short or very short of moisture.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire risk will continue as long as dry conditions remain in place, especially as leaf litter accumulates.

Other Impacts

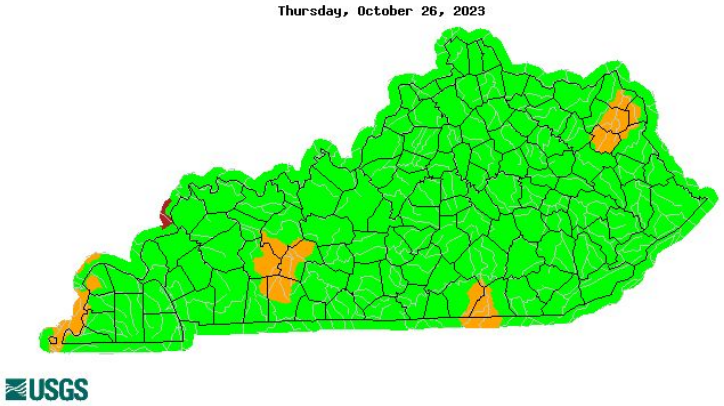
- Some livestock in Indiana have been receiving supplemental hay due to poor pasture conditions.

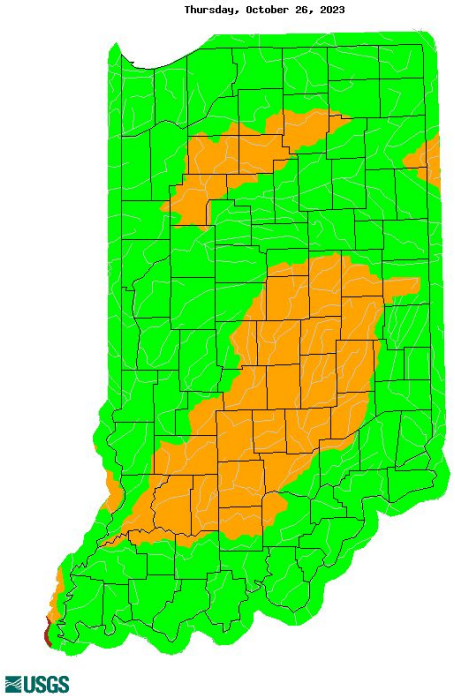
Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality, water provider, or extension office for mitigation information.

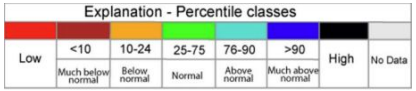
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Recent low rainfall amounts have resulted in below normal streamflows for portions of central Kentucky and southern Indiana.



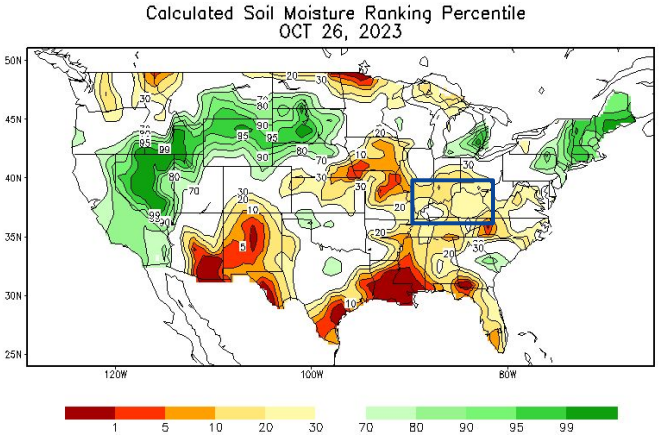


USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid October 26, 2023



Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains below the 30th percentile for large portions of southern Indiana and central Kentucky.



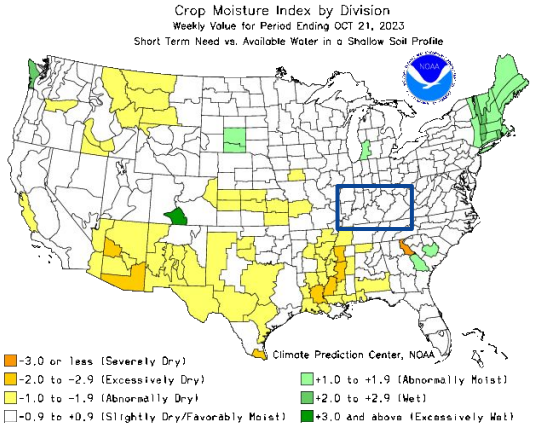


Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid October 26, 2023
Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly value for period ending October 21, 2023

Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.

- Observed Fire Danger Class as of October 26 is low in central Kentucky and moderate in southern Indiana.
- No counties in central Kentucky are under a burn ban. In central southern Indiana, only Harrison County remains under a burn ban.

Latest Kentucky burn ban status available here.

Latest Indiana burn ban map available here.

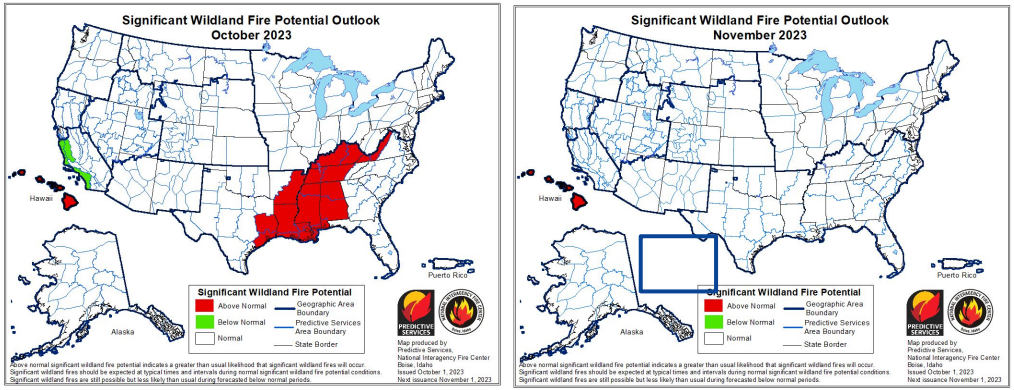


Image Caption: Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook for October 2023 & November 2023

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Periodic rains have brought beneficial moisture to the region in October. While the rains have not been heavy enough to alleviate the drought, they have been enough to prevent the drought from worsening in most locations.

- The seven day forecast indicates significant rains along and either side of the Ohio River. The current forecast calls for two to three inches of rain in southern Indiana and northern portions of central Kentucky, decreasing southeastward to around half an inch in the Lake Cumberland region. Most of this rainfall should occur October 29-30.

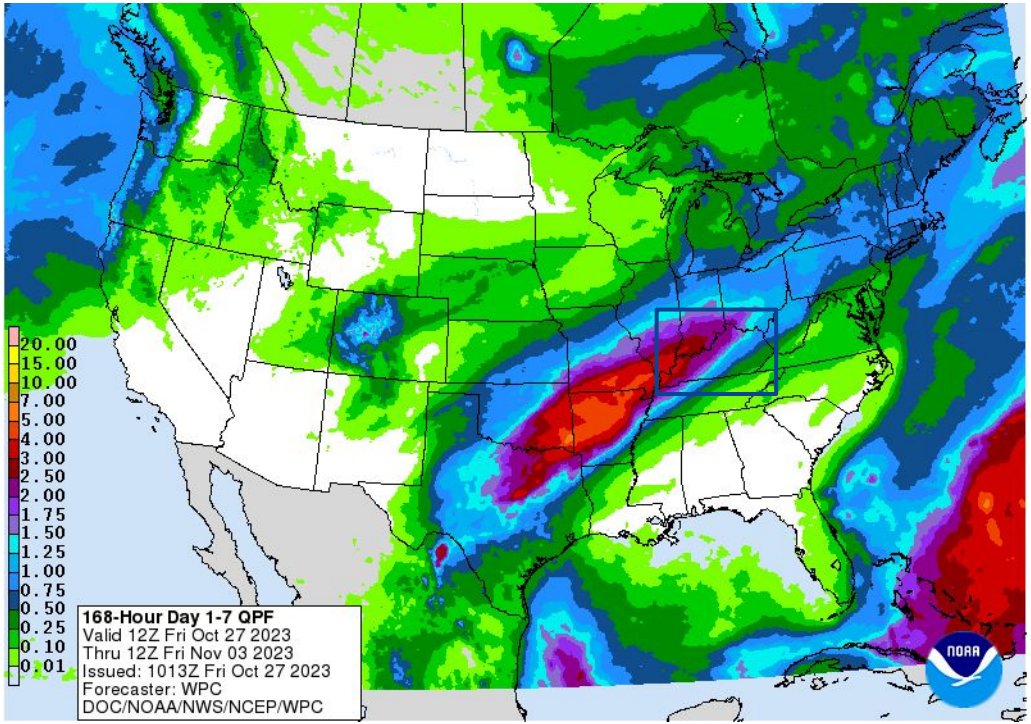


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid October 27 to November 2

Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day Temperature Outlook and Precipitation Outlook.

- Rapid drought onset or intensification is not expected.

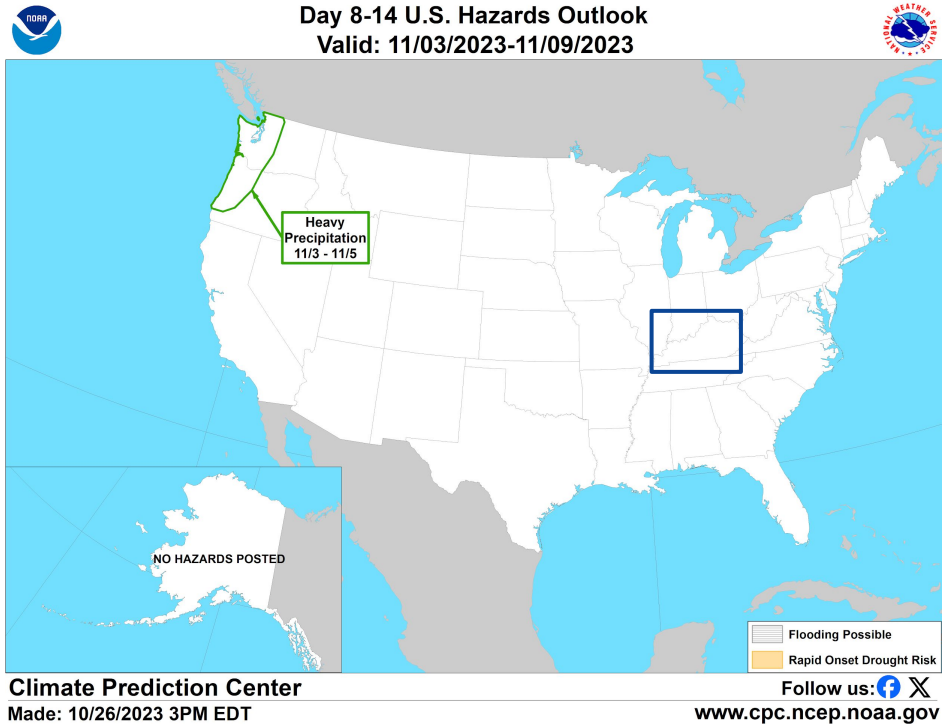
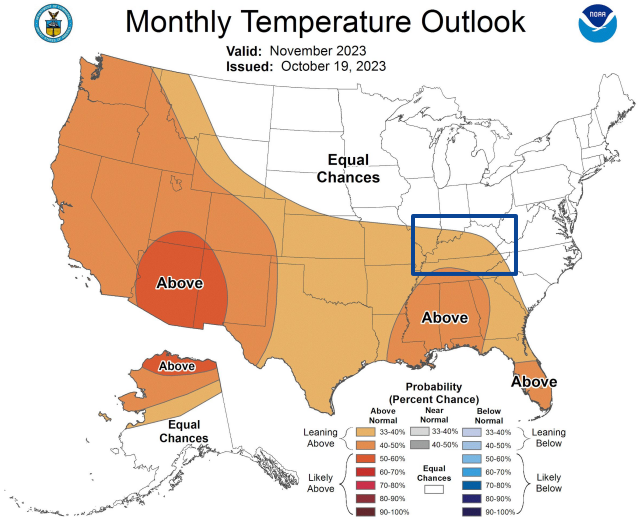


Image Caption:
Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook Valid October 21 to 27

Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- In November odds are tilting toward a warmer than normal month. There's no clear signal for precipitation.
- The October issuance of the Winter Outlook is available in the News Headline section at weather.gov/louisville. The Climate Prediction Center will update its Winter Outlook on November 16.



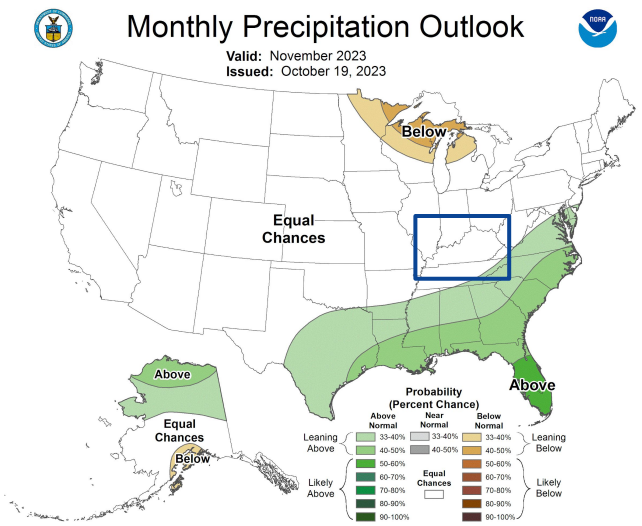
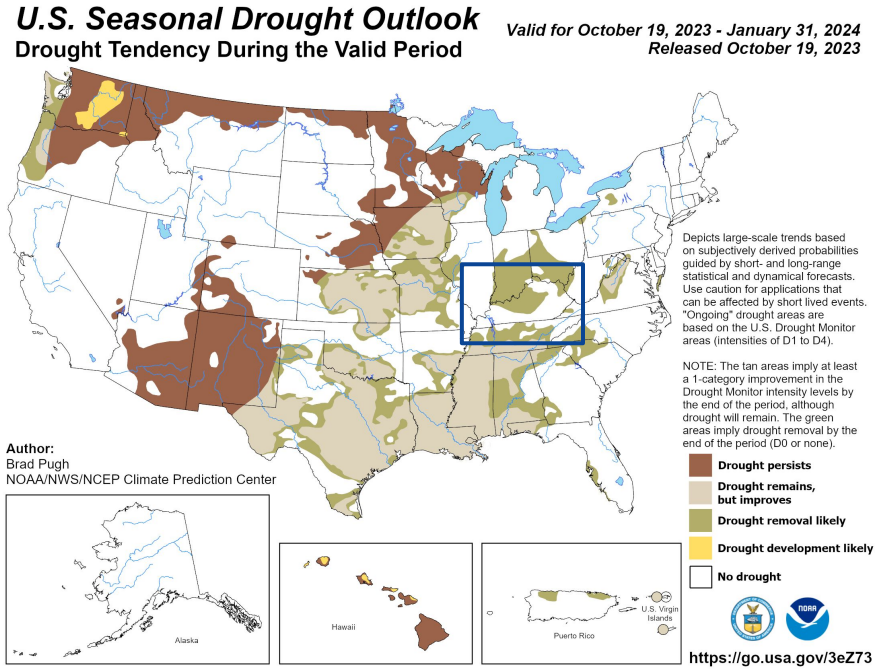


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.
Valid October 2023

Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Drought amelioration will be possible, especially in mid to late fall.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released October 19, 2023 valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024