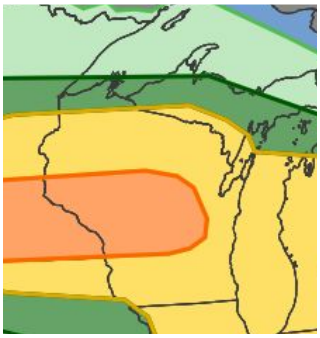
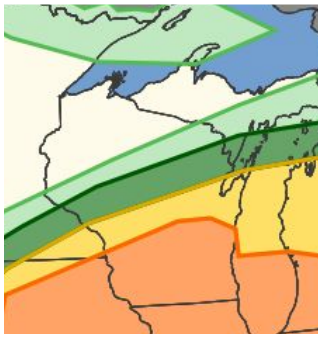
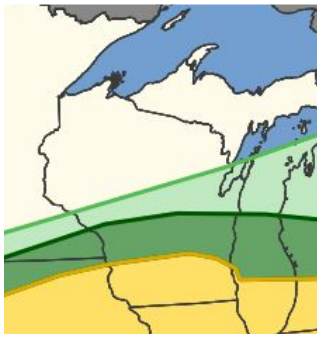
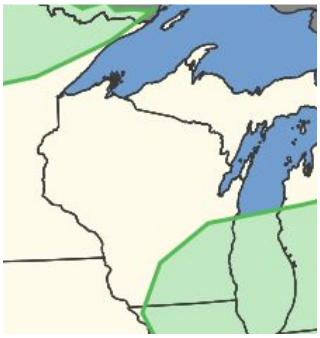
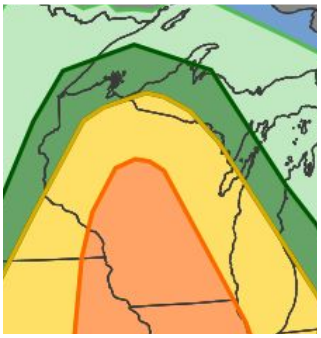
2026 Severe Weather Awareness Week In-Action

Multiple Rounds of Severe Weather April 13-17th

Mon 4/13/2026	Tue 4/14/2026	Wed 4/15/2026	Thu 4/16/2026	Fri 4/17/2026
				

Severe Weather Risk Level	General Thunder	1 Marginal	2 Slight	3 Enhanced	4 Moderate	5 High

*Severe Weather Overview:

Mon Night: Widespread damaging straight line winds & 1 tornado thru the night

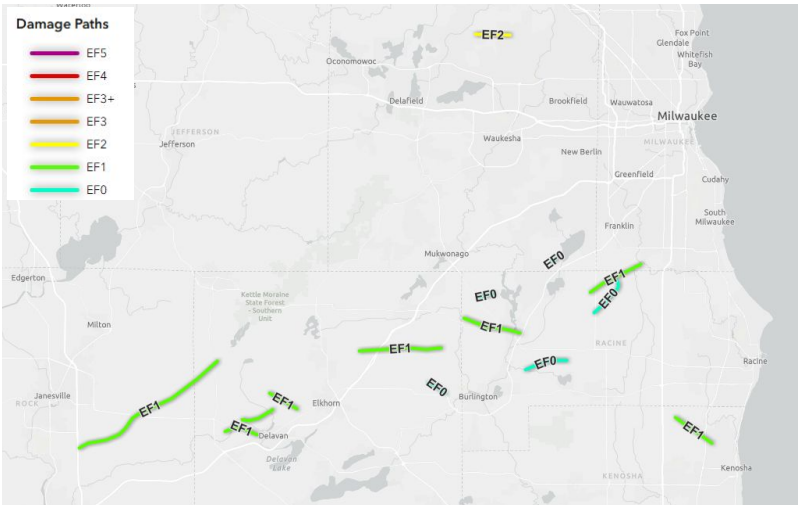
Tue Evening: Large hail, sporadic wind damage, flash flooding, & 6 tornadoes

Wed Evening: Damaging winds, numerous funnels, 1 tornado, & flash flooding

Thu: No severe weather

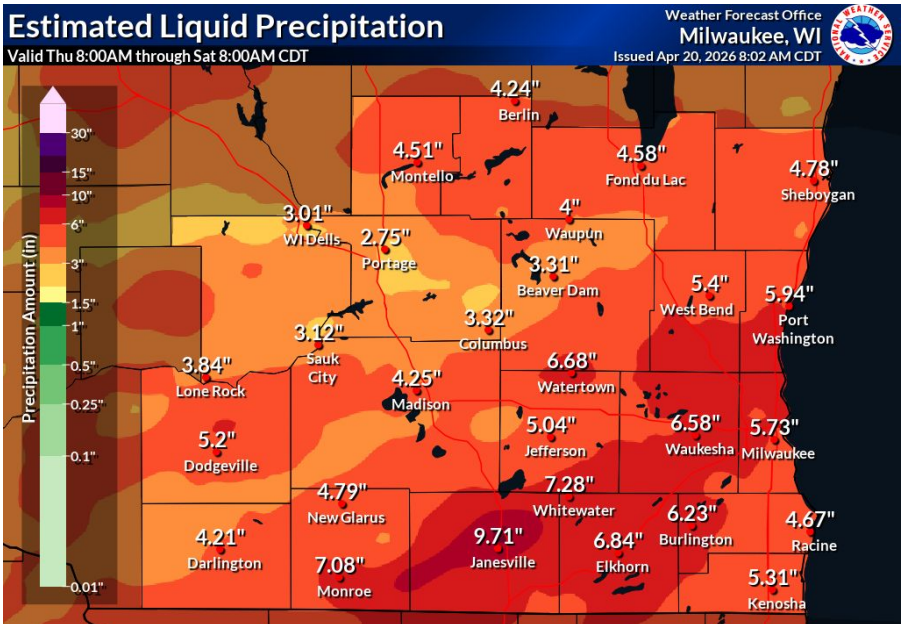
Fri Evening: Large hail, damaging winds, flash flooding, & 8 tornadoes

*Additional updates possible with ongoing surveys



Tornado tracks in SE WI from 4/13-4/17/26

Surveys continue: [Updated WI Tornado Track Info]



Estimated rainfall totals from 4/09-4/18/26

Heavy Rain & Flooding Overview:

Widespread 3-6" rainfall from Mon-Fri resulting in periods of flash flooding & river flooding esp. on the Wisconsin & Rock rivers as well as MKE metro rivers.

The **heaviest axis of 6-10"** rain fell in SE WI mainly Wed & Fri with flash flooding in the Milwaukee Metro on Wed & Janesville area on Fri.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

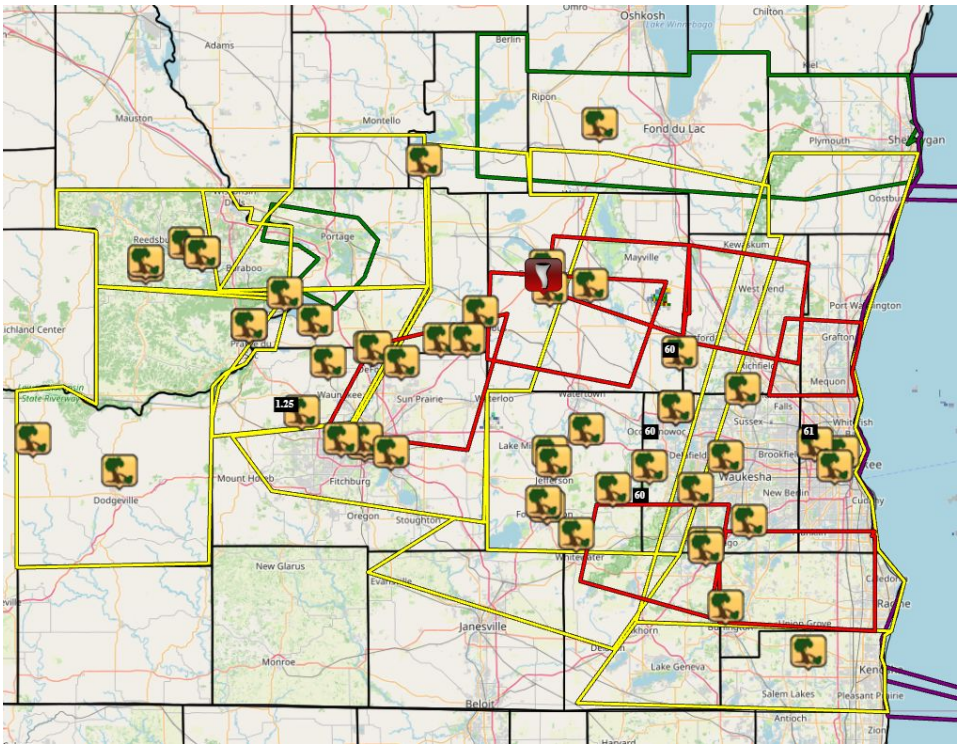
National Weather Service
Milwaukee, WI

April 13-14, 2026 Severe Storms

Overnight Storms Bring First Of Several Rounds Of Severe Weather

Event Overview: A line of severe thunderstorms moved across southern Wisconsin from the late evening of April 13 into the early morning hours of April 14, 2026. The storms brought substantial straight line wind damage from the Wisconsin Valley into southeast Wisconsin, knocking out power for many. Several areas of rotation occurred in thunderstorms from Dodge County southeast to the Lake Michigan shoreline, with an EF0 tornado being confirmed to the south of Beaver Dam. This was the first of four significant rounds of severe weather to impact southern Wisconsin during the week of April 13-17, 2026.

Event Setup: Thunderstorms developed along a surface front in southeast Minnesota and central Wisconsin during the evening hours of April 13. A Severe Thunderstorm Watch was issued for all of southern Wisconsin ahead of the storms. Thunderstorms remained mainly north of the area through the mid-late evening hours, with storms gradually sagging south toward the area after midnight. Encouraged by increasing wind shear from a strengthening low level jet (a jet stream of winds just off the surface of the Earth), storms became much better organized as they moved into the northwest part of the area after midnight. The organizing storms prompted severe thunderstorm warnings in the Wisconsin Valley, where numerous reports of straight line wind damage were received. Storms started to rotate as they moved into south-central Wisconsin, prompting multiple tornado warnings as storms moved east toward the Lake Michigan shoreline. An EF0 tornado was confirmed just south of Beaver Dam. Numerous additional reports of straight line wind damage were also received. NWS Milwaukee continues to evaluate damage at the time of this writing.



Severe warnings & local storm reports issued during the event. Severe thunderstorm warnings appear in yellow polygons, tornado warnings in red polygons, and flash flood warnings in green polygons. Local storm reports appear as icons. Reports remain prealimary, with damage assessment work continuing as of this writing. Data courtesy of IEM Cow.

Tree damage in Lisbon. Picture courtesy of Rick Thoenes.

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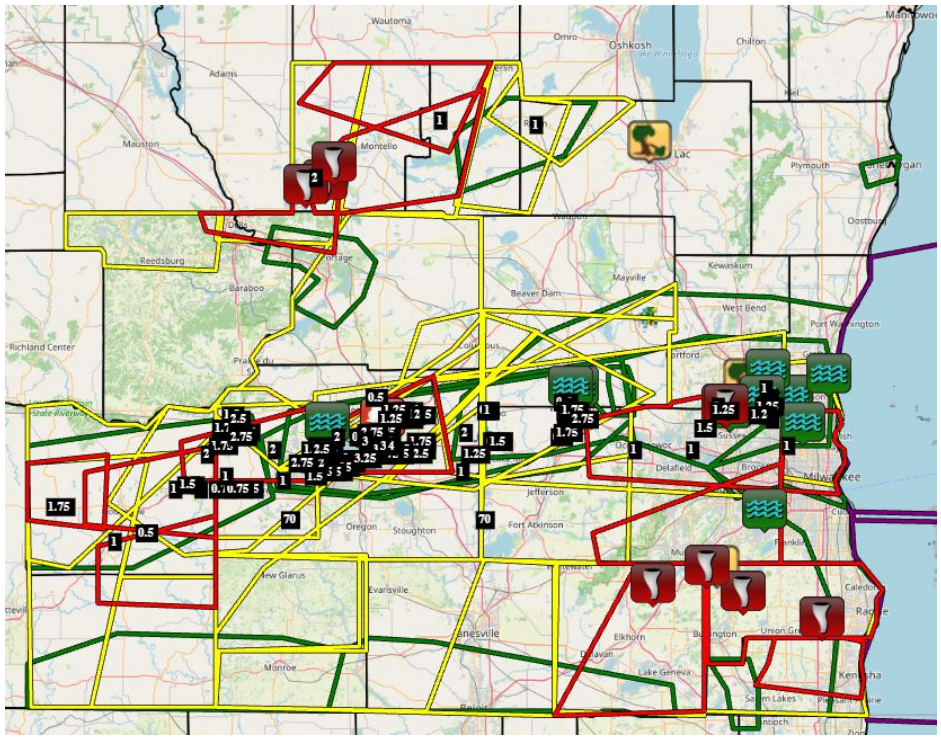
April 14, 2026 Significant Severe Storms

Afternoon & Evening Storms Bring Tornadoes & Destructive Hail

Event Overview: Intense thunderstorm development occurred during the afternoon and evening hours of April 14 as a warm front surged north into central Wisconsin. A mix of discrete supercells & storm clusters brought all forms of severe weather. This included hail up to softball size of portions of the Madison metro area, in addition to six tornadoes. Multiple reports of damaging winds were received as well. Repeated rounds of torrential downpours resulted in rises on area rivers and streams, in addition to multiple reports of flash flooding. This was the second of four rounds of significant severe weather impacting southern Wisconsin during the week of April 13-17, 2026.

Event Setup: Mostly sunny skies allowed the surface front responsible for the April 13-14 overnight storms to work north into central portions of the state by mid-day. Widespread and intense thunderstorm development occurred by mid-afternoon from the Mississippi Valley east into south-central Wisconsin. Storms were initially singular supercells, with growth into clusters and lines not occurring until the evening hours. The initially discrete supercells produced giant hail over Dane County, where multiple reports of hail stones ranging between egg and softball size were received. Areas of supercell storms became tornadic as they moved into central Wisconsin and the Milwaukee metro, prompting multiple tornado warnings. An EF2 tornado was confirmed near Sussex in Waukesha County, with an additional EF1 tornado being confirmed near Endeavor in Marquette County. As the evening progressed, storms started to merge into clusters and lines, producing straight line winds and prompting severe thunderstorm warnings. Four more brief tornadoes were confirmed in southeast Wisconsin within the line of storms—three EF1 and one EF0. NWS Milwaukee continues to evaluate damage at the time of this writing.



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Nearly baseball sized hai on the east side of Madison. Image courtesy of Albert Betancourt.

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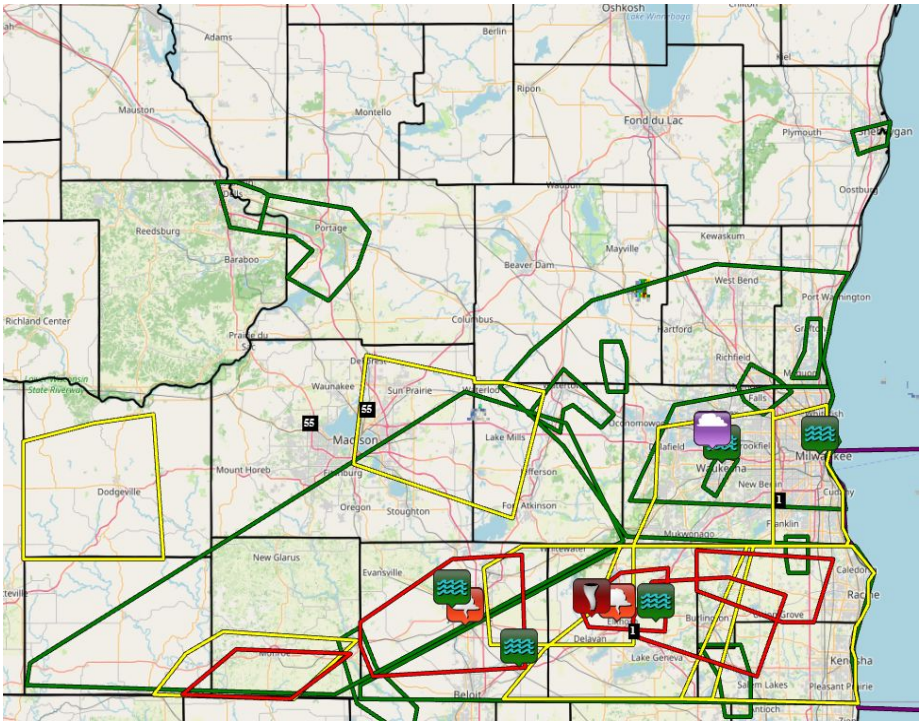
April 15, 2026 Severe Storms & Flooding

Evening Storms Bring Flash Flooding & More Severe Weather

Event Overview: Additional showers and storms developed along a frontal boundary still stalled across southern Wisconsin during the afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms were prolific rainfall producers, dropping anywhere between 1 to 3 inches of additional rainfall over south-central and southeastern parts of the area. The rainfall resulted in additional flash flooding and rises on area rivers, creeks, and streams. Thunderstorms became severe from Madison and points south and east, producing damaging wind gusts and multiple reports of funnel clouds. A tornado was confirmed near Elkhorn in Walworth County. This was the third of four significant severe weather events impacting southern Wisconsin during the week of April 13-17, 2026.

Event Setup: A third round of scattered thunderstorms developed along the front still stalled across the region. Initially disorganized, storms became linear and reached severe levels in south-central and southeastern Wisconsin by mid-evening. Rotation became apparent on radar at points from Green County east toward Racine and Kenosha Counties, prompting several tornado warnings. An EF1 tornado occurred just west of Elkhorn in Walworth County. Several other reports of straight line wind damage were also received. Torrential downpours—combined with heavy rain occurring over the two prior days—resulted in substantial flooding impacts over the Milwaukee metro. Multiple major highways, including WI-175 outside of American Family Field and I-43 on the north side of Milwaukee, were shut down due to inundation. Numerous other secondary and side streets were also flooded, with standing water lingering into the morning commute on April 16. NWS Milwaukee continues to evaluate damage at the time of this writing.



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Flooding outside of American Family Field. Image courtesy of 511 Wisconsin.

Barn damage near Elkhorn. Image courtesy of Brendan Johnson/TMJ4 Milwaukee

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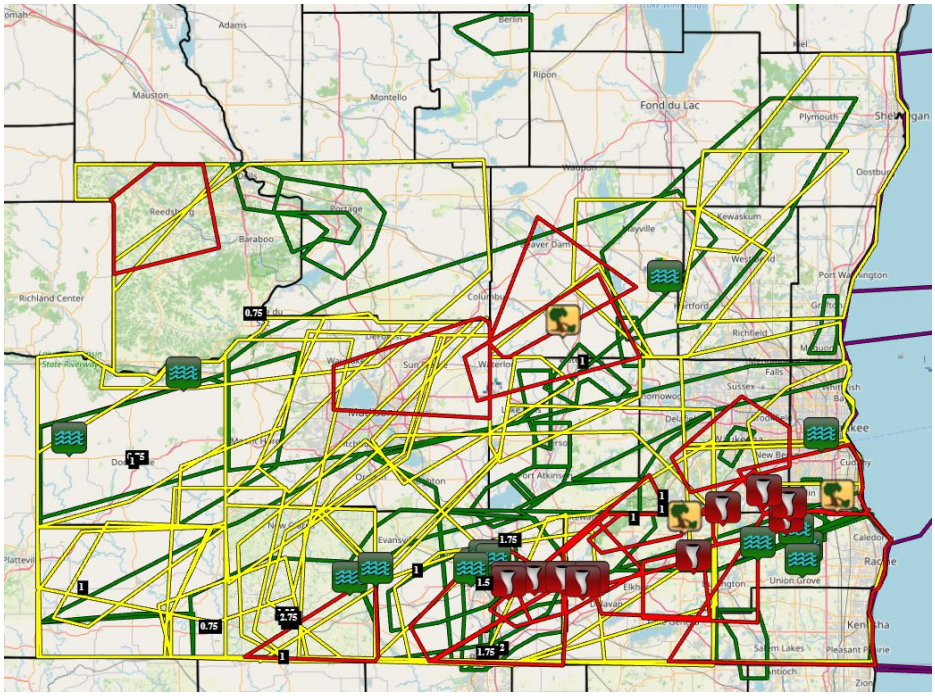
Milwaukee, WI

April 17, 2026 Severe Storms & Flooding

Fourth Round Of Storms Brings Additional Significant Severe Weather

Event Overview: The week of April 13-17, 2026 ended with a final round of widespread and intense thunderstorm development areawide. Thunderstorms concentrated from the afternoon to mid evening hours, with multiple waves of activity occurring in some locations. Similar to earlier events, a mix of supercells and clustered storms brought all severe weather hazards to southern Wisconsin. This included another round of very large hail, in addition to multiple additional tornadoes. More heavy rainfall combined with saturated soils to produce additional flash flooding and river flooding. Flash flooding impacts were particularly severe in the Janesville area. This was the fourth and final episode of severe weather during the week of April 13-17, 2026.

Event Setup: A final dynamic system brought another wave of significant and widespread severe thunderstorms to the region. Initially supercellular activity fired along a warm front during the early afternoon hours from the Mississippi River to the Wisconsin Valley, prompting a scattering of severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings in areas northwest and southwest of Madison. Additional widespread thunderstorm development occurred along a trailing cold frontal boundary during the mid-afternoon hours, allowing the radar to light up over not just southern Wisconsin but the entirety of the state. Very large hail up to baseball size was reported in the Monroe and Brodhead vicinities in Green County. Training thunderstorms brought repeated heavy rainfall atop already saturated soils, resulting in flash flooding impacts. Numerous water rescues occurred in the Janesville area, where cars were stranded in rapidly-rising flood waters. Thunderstorms turned tornadic from Rock County east into Racine, Kenosha, and southern Milwaukee Counties during the early evening hours. Eight more tornadoes—four EF1's and four EF0's—would be confirmed over this part of the area. NWS Milwaukee continues to evaluate damage at the time of this writing.



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(Left) substantial flash flooding in Janseville. Image courtesy of Chelsea North.

(Right) uprooted tree near Delavan. Image courtesy of Anthony Gravedoni.

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