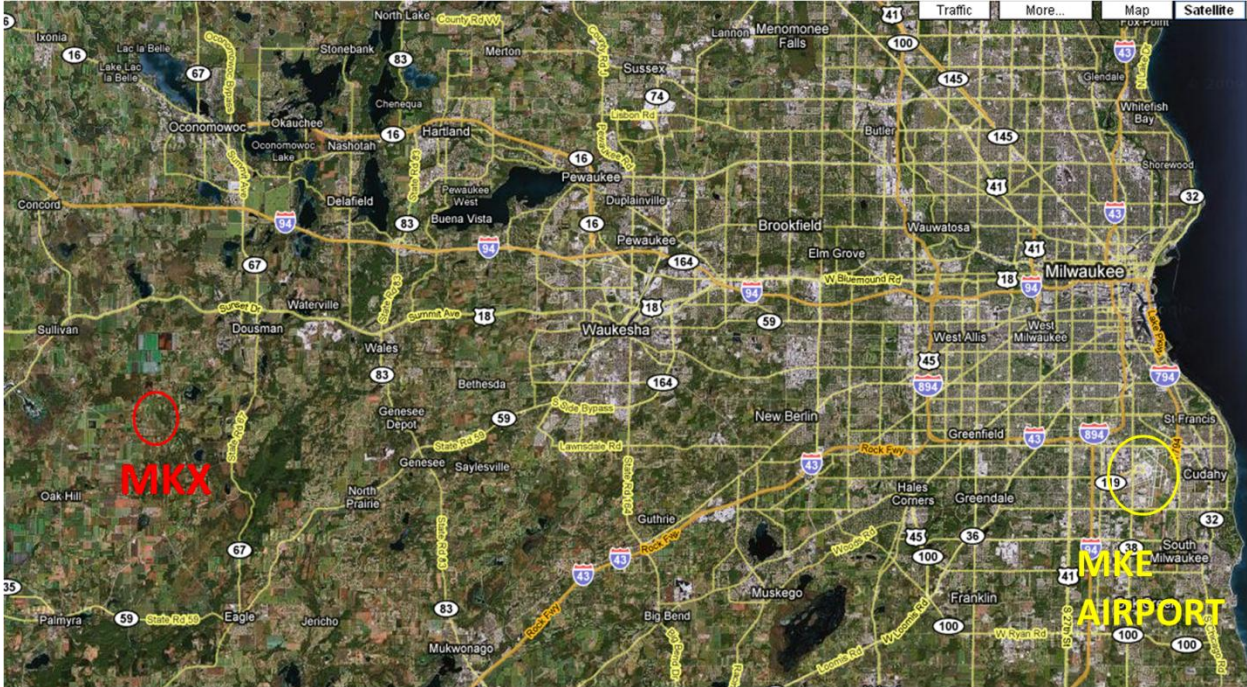


National Weather Service – Milwaukee/Sullivan, WI

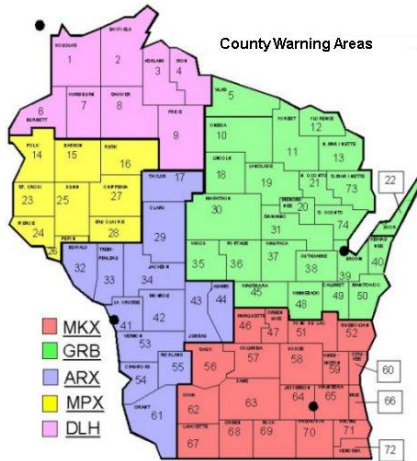


Office Location:

The Milwaukee/Sullivan WFO is conveniently located between Madison and Milwaukee, the two largest cities in the CWA, and the state of Wisconsin. The location, 34 miles west of downtown Milwaukee and 44 miles east of downtown Madison, offers our office unique qualities. Picturesque scenery surrounds the office, which is located near the Kettle Moraine State Forest.



WISCONSIN



CWA Description:

Our forecast office is responsible for 20 counties in southern Wisconsin with a population of approximately 3.3 million, or 58% of Wisconsin's total population. The state's two largest cities (Milwaukee and Madison) along with the 3 busiest airports (Milwaukee, Madison and Waukesha) are located in the CWA. Numerous small towns and medium sized cities dot the landscape of southern Wisconsin along with two major interstate systems. The closest communities to the office are Sullivan and Dousman, with larger communities of Oconomowoc and Waukesha within 20 miles.

Office Activities:

The office is staffed 24 hours a day, year-round. The office is responsible for aviation and marine forecasting as well as fire-weather and routine products for the general public. We publish a twice-yearly newsletter called the Weather Brew that is emailed to the media and emergency managers as well as posted on the website.

Our office takes advantage of several

opportunities to get out into the communities of our CWA. The annual boat show in Milwaukee is an opportunity to outreach with recreational boaters and fisherman. We will have a booth to promote the NWS website and discuss weather safety at the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee. Each spring the



office conducts storm spotter training classes in each of the 20 counties in the CWA. These classes teach hundreds of local spotters how to detect and report severe weather.

Office Personnel

The Milwaukee/Sullivan forecast office prides itself on being an office that people want to call home. A vast majority of the forecasters in this office grew up in Southeast Wisconsin. Most have worked in a number of offices around the country, but came back to this area which they call home. The office is home to 25 employees including 5 management members, 5 lead forecasters, 4 general forecasters, 4 interns, 2 student career experience program(SCEP) students and 2 electronic technicians, an Information Technology Officer and an Administrative Support Assistant.

Climate

Southern Wisconsin provides a mixed bag of exciting weather. Summertime offers mild temperatures with normal highs in the 70s to low 80s. Contrast this with winter temperatures in the 20s and 30s, there's a time of year for everyone! Snow lovers will enjoy the wintertime with just under than 50 inches of snow per year. Summer sees plenty of sunny days with occasional thunderstorms. Southern Wisconsin sees a peak of severe weather in late June.

Transportation

Two major airports are located within an hour drive of the office; Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee and Dane County Regional Airport in Madison. Chicago O'Hare and Midland are also feasible options for air transportation, being only a couple hours away. There are also several small airports in the area including Milwaukee Timmerman, Waukesha, Janesville and Watertown. No major public transportation is available to the office, however taxi service is available.

Education

Wisconsin ranks very high among the United States for its public education standards. Over the last decade Wisconsin students have scored significantly higher than the national average on the ACT and SAT placement exams. Many of the top public schools in the state are located in Waukesha and Jefferson counties. Our local school district, Kettle Moraine, was recently named a Blue Ribbon school district for its high standards. State wide high school graduation rates are around 90%. In western Waukesha County over 94% of the high school students receive their diploma. There are many options for higher education within the CWA. The University of Wisconsin Madison is located 40 miles from the office. Other local branches of the University are found in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Whitewater, and Racine. Milwaukee Lutheran, Carroll College, and Marquette University are among the private higher education institutions in the area. There are more than 20 technical and vocational schools in southeast Wisconsin that offer excellent educational programs, such as Waukesha County Technical College,

Milwaukee Area Technical College and Madison Area Technical College. The number of higher level education opportunities in such close proximity show Wisconsin's dedication to education.



Housing

The office's convenient location allows for a number of housing opportunity styles within a 30 minute commute of the office. In the suburban cities of Oconomowoc and Waukesha rent for a one-bedroom apartment typically runs around \$700, while two-bedrooms are usually around \$900. The housing market in the Milwaukee suburbs overall has remained strong in comparison to other parts of the country. New homes range from \$250,000 to \$350,000. If country life is desired, home prices drop considerably the further away from Milwaukee you go. New homes average between \$150,000 and \$250,000 closer to the office, and in the more rural towns around Eagle and Jefferson. The current staff lives as close as 10 minutes to the office, South-West Oconomowoc, to as far as 45 minutes in Milton and Glendale. Whether your family desires a rural or urban setting this office offers the best of both worlds. One additional point of interest, Pewaukee, one of the western suburbs of Milwaukee received the distinction from *Business Week* magazine of being the "Best Affordable Suburb" in 2009. The ranking was based on affordability, quality of life, school systems, crime rate and recreation. Pewaukee is just north of Waukesha and about a 30 minute commute to the office.

Taxes

Wisconsin state sales tax is 5 percent against capital goods, liquor, food consumed in restaurants and transient lodgings. Sixty one of the counties in Wisconsin also include a county tax of 0.50%. Waukesha County is one of the few counties that does not include the 0.50% county tax, but does have a 0.10% stadium tax to help fund the Miller Park baseball stadium. Wisconsin individual income tax rates vary from 4.60% to 6.75%, depending upon marital status and income. Property tax rates are highly dependent on the city/town. Typical rates in Waukesha and Jefferson counties are between \$14.00 and \$22.00 per \$1000. For additional information regarding taxes go to Wisconsin's department of Revenue webpage at <http://www.dor.state.wi.us/faqs/pcs/taxrates.html>.

Recreation

Did you say recreation? Well, southern Wisconsin is the place to be. The office is located near the Kettle Moraine 77 lakes and hiking, biking, and the famous Glacial



State Forest, which has countless parks. There are cross country trails Drumlins Trail which winds



more than numerous featuring through 70 fishing and those who fishing



miles of southeast Wisconsin. Due to the plethora of lakes in the area recreational boating are popular activities. For cannot get enough fishing feel free to go ice during the winter months.

Milwaukee basketball and minor



In the mood for city life? Milwaukee will provide.

offers professional baseball (Brewers) and (Bucks) franchises as well as Soccer (Wave) league hockey (Admirals) . The Brewers

recently built a state of the art from the office. The city of Beloit, a minor league baseball team, the

stadium called Miller Park located 30 minutes in our CWA along the Illinois border, also has Beloit Snappers. The proximity to suburban

cities allow for recreation sports such as baseball, softball, soccer, dodge ball, kickball, tennis, and golf. For golf enthusiasts, southeast Wisconsin's mild summers and hundreds of courses are a golfer's dream.

The Milwaukee Zoo attracts over 1 million visitors annually, while the Public Museum is one of the nation's largest natural history museums. Milwaukee is famous for its summer festivals which include Summer Fest, a music festival, and its yearly Harley Davidson gathering. Whether you are looking for outdoor fun, recreational sports, a ball game or simply enjoying good hometown atmosphere the area surrounding the office has it all.

