

NOUS41 KWBC 091715
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 03-21
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
120 PM EDT WED APR 9 2003

TO FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...
NOAAPORT SUBSBRIBERS...OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
/NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS...AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM GLENN AUSTIN
ACTING CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT ADDITION TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PROBABILISTIC
HEAT INDEX PRODUCT SUITE...EFFECTIVE MAY 1 2003

ON THURSDAY MAY 1 2003...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILL
ENHANCE ITS HEAT INDEX PRODUCT SUITE. FORECASTS OF DAYTIME HIGH
HEAT INDEX AND NIGHTTIME LOW HEAT INDEX WILL BE ADDED TO THE
CURRENT DAILY MEAN HEAT INDEX FORECASTS SUITE. THERE WILL BE NO
CHANGES TO THE SUITE OF MEAN HEAT INDEX PRODUCTS /WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION /WMO/ HEADING: FMUS23 KWNH...AWIPS
IDENTIFIER: PRBEHI AND FMUS24 KWNH...PRBWHI/ THAT WERE FIRST MADE
AVAILABLE DURING THE SUMMER OF 2002...ANNOUNCED IN SERVICE CHANGE
NOTICE 02-25 AT THE WEBSITE LISTED AT THE END OF THIS MESSAGE.

THE ADDITIONAL HIGH AND LOW HEAT INDEX FORECASTS WILL BE
PROBABILISTIC IN NATURE SIMILAR TO THE CURRENT MEAN HEAT INDEX
FORECASTS.

THE NEW GRAPHICS WILL DISPLAY THE MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HEAT INDEX
FORECAST FOR DAYS THREE THROUGH SEVEN. FOR EACH DAY...
PROBABILITIES WILL BE ISSUED INDICATING THE CHANCE THE MAXIMUM
HEAT INDEX WILL EXCEED 95...100...OR 105 DEGREES. FOR THE
MINIMUM...HEAT INDEX PROBABILITIES OF EXCEEDING 75...80...OR 85
WILL BE PROVIDED. SEE TABLE 1 FOR A LIST OF THESE PRODUCTS.

THE TEXT PRODUCT WILL INCLUDE THE FORECAST MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM
HEAT INDEX AS WELL AS THE DAILY AVERAGE HEAT INDEX FORECAST
VALUE. IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE PROBABILITY OF THE HEAT INDEX
EXCEEDING 70...75...80... 85...90...95 AND 100 DEGREES FOR BOTH
THE MINIMUM AND MEAN HEAT INDEX...BUT EXCEEDING 80...85...90...
95...100...105...AND 110 DEGREES FOR THE MAXIMUM HEAT INDEX. SEE
TABLE 1.

THE HEAT INDEX IS PREPARED BY THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION
CENTER /HPC/ IN CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND. IT IS CALCULATED FOR EACH
SELECTED LOCATION BASED ON HPC FORECASTS. THEY ARE CONVERTED TO
PROBABILISTIC VALUES BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DIFFERENCES IN
THE FORECASTS OVER AN ENSEMBLE OF MODEL FORECASTS AT A SPECIFIC

LOCATION AND FORECAST DAY.

THE MEAN HEAT INDEX IS INTENDED TO GIVE CUSTOMERS AN EARLY INDICATION OF ANY SIGNIFICANT HEAT RELATED PROBLEMS. THE HEAT INDEX IS CALCULATED BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THE TEMPERATURE AND THE HUMIDITY AND IS A MORE ACCURATE INDICATOR OF DISCOMFORT THAN THE TEMPERATURE ALONE. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT THE THRESHOLD FOR DANGER DUE TO HEAT RELATED STRESS IS AN AVERAGE DAILY HEAT INDEX OF 85 DEGREES OR HIGHER.

THE PROBABILISTIC HEAT INDEX FORECAST TEXT BULLETIN IS PROVIDED IN TWO PARTS...EAST /E/ AND WEST /W/.

IN ADDITION...HPC DISSEMINATES THESE PRODUCTS AND RELATED INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET. THE URL ADDRESS AVAILABLE MAY 1 IS AS FOLLOWS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/.

http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heat_index.shtml

TABLE 1. GRAPHICS PRODUCTS COVERING THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND TEXT BULLETINS AT SELECTED CITY LOCATIONS.

MAXIMUM HEAT INDEX GRAPHICS

DAY HI WMO HEADING AWIPS ID

3	95	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG396
3	100	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG300
3	105	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG305
4	95	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG496
4	100	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG400
4	105	PTNM98 KWNH	RBG405
5	95	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG596
5	100	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG500
5	105	PTNO98 KWNH	RBG505
6	95	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG696
6	100	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG600
6	105	PTNQ98 KWNH	RBG605
7	95	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG796
7	100	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG700
7	105	PTNS98 KWNH	RBG705

MAXIMUM HEAT INDEX TEXT BULLETINS

AREA WMO HEADING AWIPS ID

EAST	FMUS23 KWNH	PRBEHH
WEST	FMUS24 KWNH	PRBWHH

MINIMUM HEAT INDEX GRAPHICS

DAY MIN WMO HEADING AWIPS ID

3	75	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG375
3	80	PTNK98 KWNH	RBG380

3 85 PTNK98 KWNH RBG384
4 75 PTNM98 KWNH RBG475
4 80 PTNM98 KWNH RBG480
4 85 PTNM98 KWNH RBG484
5 75 PTNO98 KWNH RBG575
5 80 PTNO98 KWNH RBG580
5 85 PTNO98 KWNH RBG584
6 75 PTNQ98 KWNH RBG675
6 80 PTNQ98 KWNH RBG680
6 85 PTNQ98 KWNH RBG684
7 75 PTNS98 KWNH RBG775
7 80 PTNS98 KWNH RBG780
7 85 PTNS98 KWNH RBG784

MINIMUM HEAT INDEX TEXT BULLETINS

AREA WMO HEADING AWIPS ID
EAST FMUS23 KWNH PRBEHL
WEST FMUS24 KWNH PRBWHL

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HEAT INDEX PRODUCT SUITE...
YOU CAN CONTACT

KEVIN MCCARTHY...DEPUTY DIRECTOR
NCEP HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PREDICTION CENTER
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND
PHONE 301-763-8000 X7304
EMAIL KEVIN.MCCARTHY@NOAA.GOV

-OR-

ROBERT KELLY...CHIEF
NCEP/HPC FORECAST OPERATIONS BRANCH
CAMP SPRINGS MARYLAND
PHONE 301-763-8000 X7306
EMAIL ROBERT.KELLY@NOAA.GOV

THIS NOTICE AND OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE AT
THE FOLLOWING URL ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/.

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

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