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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 12-28  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC  
1050 AM EDT Tue Aug 7 2012

To:       Subscribers:  
          -Family of Services  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
          -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
          -NOAAPort  
          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:     Eli Jacks  
          Chief, Fire and Public Weather Services Branch

Subject: New Fire and Public Forecast Zones and Boundary Changes for  
Southeastern Pennsylvania: Effective December 4, 2012

Effective Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), 100 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), three existing fire and public forecast zones in southeastern Pennsylvania will be split into six separate zones. The new zones are shown below in Table 1. Both fire and public zones are identical to each other in zone name, zone number and geographic extent.

A graphic depicting these changes is online at:

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/fire/phi\\_zones.pdf](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/fire/phi_zones.pdf)

These zones are being changed to improve forecast accuracy in the urban versus suburban areas of southeastern Pennsylvania, and to better represent the differences in climatology associated with elevation increases from south to north. These changes will result in more geographically precise forecast, watch and warning products for the general public and will enhance Web-based graphical product consistency and appearance.

These zone changes require partners and users to take appropriate action to receive the new zone products using the Universal Geographic Code (UGC) zone code format (Z) listed in Table 1. Products affected by this change are listed in Table 2.

Table 1. New Fire and Public Zone Names and Numbers

Old Zone Name	Old UGC (Z)	New Zone Name	New UGC (Z)
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Chester	PAZ067	Western Chester	PAZ101
		Eastern Chester	PAZ102
Montgomery	PAZ068	Western Montgomery	PAZ103
		Eastern Montgomery	PAZ104
Bucks	PAZ069	Upper Bucks	PAZ105
		Lower Bucks	PAZ106

Table 2. WFO PHI Products Affected by These Changes

Product Name -----	AWIPS ID -----	WMO Header -----
Area Forecast Matrices	AFMPHI	FOUS51 KPHI
Coastal Hazard Message	CFWPHI	WHUS41 KPHI
Daily River Summary	RVDPHI	FGUS51 KPHI
Hydrologic Outlook	ESFPHI	FGUS71 KPHI
Hydrologic Summary	RVAPHI	SRUS41 KPHI
Hydrologic Statement	RVSPHI	FGUS81 KPHI
Fire Weather Forecast	FWFPHI	FNUS51 KPHI
Flash Flood Watch	FFAPHI	WGUS61 KPHI
Hazardous Weather Outlook	HWOPHI	FLUS41 KPHI
Hurricane Local Statement	HLSPHI	WTUS81 KPHI
Non-Precipitation Advisory/Watch/Warning	NPWPHI	WWUS71 KPHI
Point Forecast Matrices	PFMPHI	FOUS51 KPHI
Public Information Statement	PNSPHI	NOUS41 KPHI
Public Zone Forecast	ZFPPI	FPUS51 KPHI
Red Flag Warning	RFWPHI	WWUS81 KPHI
Short-Term Forecast	NOWPHI	FPUS71 KPHI
Special Weather Statement	SPSPHI	WWUS81 KPHI
Tabular State Forecast	SFTPHI	FPUS61 KPHI
Winter Storm Advisory/Watch/Warning	WSWPHI	WWUS41 KPHI
Air Quality Alert	AQAPHI	AEUS71 KPHI
Air Quality Forecast	AQIPHI	AEUS71 KPHI

An updated public zone shapefile is online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/pubzone.htm>

An updated fire zone shapefile is online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/geodata/catalog/wsom/html/firezone.htm>

If you have any questions, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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