

NOUS41 KWBC 291110
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement 18-55
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington DC
710 AM EDT Tue May 28 2018

TO: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort
 Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From: Michelle Hawkins, Chief
 Severe, Fire, Public, and Winter Weather
 Services Branch

SUBJECT: Change of Heat Advisory Thresholds across Upstate New
 York and Northern New England Effective June 1, 2018

Effective on or about June 1, 2018, four NWS offices (Albany, NY; Binghamton, NY; Buffalo, NY; Burlington, VT), in collaboration with the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH), will lower Heat Advisory criteria for all of New York for the coming summer season.

Studies and research conducted by the NYS DOH show that emergency department visits and deaths from heat increase significantly on days when the heat index reaches 95 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

Thus, the old threshold of 100-104 degrees Fahrenheit for two or more consecutive hours has been lowered to 95-99 degrees Fahrenheit occurring for two or more consecutive hours.

Also, effective on or about June 1, 2018, two NWS offices (Gray, ME; Caribou, ME) will change Heat Advisory criteria to 95-99 degrees Fahrenheit occurring for two or more consecutive hours from the previous two or more consecutive days.

Excessive Heat Warning criteria (heat index 105 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for two or more hours) remains unchanged.

It is expected that this change will alert people sooner to impending heat threats and if acted upon, reduce the number of heat-related illnesses and emergency department visits.

No communication changes are required to continue to receive heat advisory/warning products. Only the triggering threshold for heat advisories has been changed.

If you have questions, please contact:

John Koch

NWS Eastern Region Headquarters
Bohemia, NY 11716-2618
john.koch@noaa.gov
631-244-0104

National NWS Public Information Statements are online at:

<http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm>

NNNN