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Service Change Notice 19-109  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
117 PM EST Tue Dec 17 2019

To:       Subscribers:  
          -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
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          Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

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

Subject:  Changes to Public Forecast Zones for WFO Chicago, IL,  
          Effective March 3, 2020

Effective Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 100 PM Central Daylight Time (CST), 1800 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Chicago, IL, will change Public Forecast Zones encompassing Cook and Will Counties in northeast Illinois. Upon implementation of this change, all public forecasts and related products will use the zone numbers and names listed below.

If March 3, 2020 is declared a Critical Weather Day, this implementation will be postponed to March 10, 2020.

These changes have been coordinated with partnering agencies and will improve forecast services to the city of Chicago and the Chicago metropolitan area by allowing for more refined watches, warnings and advisories. The new zones will be divided as follows:

Divide the current Cook County forecast zone (ILZ014) into three zones: Northern Cook County, Central Cook County and Southern Cook County

The Central Cook County zone will contain the entire city of Chicago except for a small portion within DuPage County.

Divide the current Will County forecast zone (ILZ022) into three zones: Northern Will County, Southern Will County, Eastern Will County

The new zone numbers, names, and description of the zone areas are listed below.

WFO Chicago Public Forecast Zones being divided:

Zone Number: Zone Name

ILZ014: Cook  
ILZ022: Will

These zones will be replacing the existing zones above:

Zone Number: Zone Name

ILZ103: Northern Cook  
ILZ104: Central Cook  
ILZ105: Southern Cook  
ILZ106: Northern Will  
ILZ107: Southern Will  
ILZ108: Eastern Will

Full list of new WFO Chicago, Illinois Public Forecast Zones:

Zone Number: Zone Name

ILZ003: Winnebago  
ILZ004: Boone  
ILZ005: McHenry  
ILZ006: Lake  
ILZ008: Ogle  
ILZ010: Lee  
ILZ011: De Kalb  
ILZ012: Kane  
ILZ013: DuPage  
ILZ019: La Salle  
ILZ020: Kendall  
ILZ021: Grundy  
ILZ023: Kankakee  
ILZ032: Livingston  
ILZ033: Iroquois  
ILZ039: Ford  
ILZ103: Northern Cook  
ILZ104: Central Cook  
ILZ105: Southern Cook  
ILZ106: Northern Will  
ILZ107: Southern Will  
ILZ108: Eastern Will  
INZ001: Lake  
INZ002: Porter  
INZ010: Newton  
INZ011: Jasper  
INZ019: Benton

Updated public zone shapefiles are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/gis/PublicZones>

A graphical depiction of this change is online at:

[https://www.weather.gov/lot/Forecast\\_Zone\\_Change](https://www.weather.gov/lot/Forecast_Zone_Change)

For more information, please contact:

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National Service Change Notices are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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