



The Ozark Ambassador

National Weather Service Springfield, Missouri



Preparing for Spring 2024

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Winter Weather Websites

[DSS Packet](#)

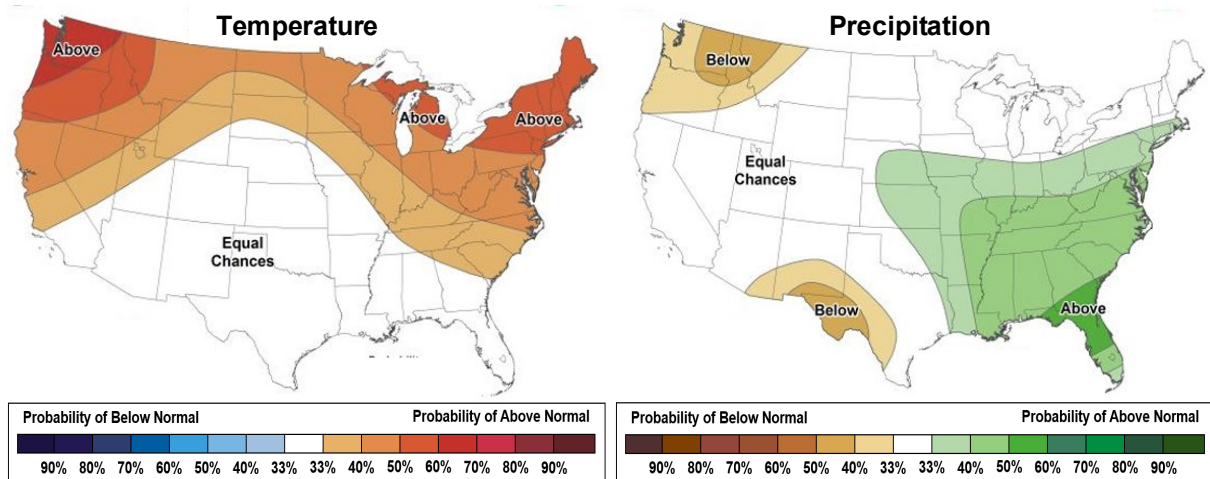
[Weather Story](#)

[Weather Prediction Center](#)

[Climate Prediction Center](#)

[Storm Prediction Center](#)

Spring Outlook



The Spring outlook favors above normal precipitation and equal chances for above and below normal temperatures. For more information visit: [Climate Prediction Outlook](#).

Severe Weather Preparedness Week March 4-8, 2024

Join the NWS and [Missouri State Emergency Management Agency](#) and [Kansas Division of Emergency Management](#) as we prepared for severe weather season.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Receiving Information	Lightning Safety	Tornado Safety	Hail & Wind Safety	Flood Safety
		Statewide Tornado Drill		







On **Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 11:00 AM** State Emergency Management and the NWS will conduct a Statewide Tornado Drill. Every school, citizen, and business is encouraged to participate in the drill. Residents should treat the drill as if it were an actual Tornado Warning. The purpose of the drill is to test everyone's readiness for life-threatening severe weather events such as tornadoes, flash floods, and damaging winds. Local officials are encouraged to sound warning sirens to initiate the drill. The National Weather Service **will issue a Routine Weekly Test (RWT) to NOAA Weather Radios to initiate the drill**. In Missouri, this is a change from past years in which a true Tornado Warning was issued. Additional info on our [Severe Weather Preparedness Week webpage](#).

Severe Thunderstorms

Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense

Severe Thunderstorm Impact-Based Warning (IBW) Tags

Base	Considerable	Destructive
		
60 mph and/or 1.00" (quarter-size)	70 mph and/or 1.75" (golfball-size)	80 mph and/or 2.75" (baseball-size)
Does NOT activate WEA 	Does NOT activate WEA 	Activates WEA 

Flash Flooding

Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

Understanding WPC Excessive Rainfall Risk Categories

No Area/Label	MARGINAL (MRGL)	SLIGHT (SLGT)	MODERATE (MDT)	HIGH (HIGH)
Flash floods are generally not expected.	Isolated flash floods possible	Scattered flash floods possible	Numerous flash floods likely	Widespread flash floods expected
	Localized and primarily affecting places that can experience rapid runoff with heavy rainfall.	Mainly localized. Most vulnerable are urban areas, roads, small streams and washes. Isolated significant flash floods possible.	Numerous flash flooding events with significant events possible. Many streams may flood, potentially affecting larger rivers.	Severe, widespread flash flooding. Areas that don't normally experience flash flooding, could. Lives and property in greater danger.
www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov @NWSWPC				

Flash Flood

Impact-Based Warning (IBW) Tags

Base



Flash flooding is in progress, imminent, or highly likely.

Does NOT activate WEA



Considerable



Flash flooding is capable of unusual severity or impact is imminent or ongoing.

Activates WEA



Catastrophic



Flash flooding is a threat to life/property and catastrophic damage is occurring or imminent. (*Flash Flood Emergency*)

Activates WEA



Sheltering in Tornadoes

Tornado Ahead?



Stay Informed

about possible severe weather when you travel.



Keep WEAs

enabled on your phone. It could save your life or the lives of others.



Take immediate action and find shelter

if there's a tornado or threatening weather ahead!
Overpasses are not safe shelter.



weather.gov

Be Prepared for Nighttime Tornadoes

Cell phone

Turned on, charged and Wireless Emergency Alerts enabled

NOAA Weather Radio

Test regularly and make sure it's tuned to your local station

Safe Place

Have a safe place prepared if you know storms are coming

Flashlight & Shoes

Keep flashlight and sturdy shoes handy



weather.gov



Receiving Weather Information

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)

can alert you when weather threatens!



WEAs are emergency messages sent by government authorities to your mobile phone, reserved for life-threatening situations.



Keep WEAs enabled on your phone.
It could save your life or the lives of others.



weather.gov



Take charge of DISASTERS



Download the FEMA App Today!

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- Disaster Resources
- Preparedness Tips



Plan. Protect. Recover.



FEMA



No power?
No cell service?
NO PROBLEM!!

Weather information
and emergency alerts!



**NOAA
WEATHER RADIO**

has you covered



weather.gov/nwr

Outdoor Weather Safety

Weather-Ready Outdoors

Weather-Ready for Boating?



Strong Winds

Dangerous wind can arrive well before the rain. Reduce speed and head to shore if alerted to high wind. Always wear a life jacket when on a boat.



Lightning

If you hear thunder or see lightning, it's time to stay in the cabin or head to shore.



Fog

If fog forms, slow down and turn on your lights. Listen for other boats around you or check radar.



Weather-Ready for Nature?



Flash Flooding

Heavy rainfall can cause flooding in a flash. Use caution when hiking in canyons or camping near streams and rivers.



Excessive Heat

Bring extra water and remain hydrated. Use sunscreen and wear light, loose-fitting clothing. Take breaks in the shade.



Lightning

If you hear thunder or see lightning, go immediately to an enclosed building or hard-topped vehicle (if possible). Avoid isolated tall trees or ridge tops.



Know Before You Go!

A clear sky doesn't mean that you're out of the woods.

Check [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov) to know if extreme heat, storms, or other hazards could be on the horizon.



Sending Storm Reports

Ways to Send Reports

Send Report to NWS



[iNWS Storm Reports](#)



[mPING App](#)



Join CoCoRaHS Volunteer Program



What is CoCoRaHS?

The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network, is a non-profit, community based, network of volunteers who measure and report rain, hail and snow in their backyards. Additional [About CoCoRaHS info.](#)

Who uses CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS is used by a wide variety of organizations and

individuals. The National Weather Service, other meteorologists, hydrologists, emergency managers, city utilities (water supply, water conservation, storm water), insurance adjusters, USDA, engineers, mosquito control, ranchers and farmers, outdoor & recreation interests, teachers, students, and neighbors in the community are just some examples of those who visit our Web site and use our data.

Volunteers of All Ages Welcome!

Everyone can participate, both young, old, and in-between. The only requirements are an enthusiasm for watching and reporting weather conditions and a desire to learn more about how weather can affect and impact our lives. [Check out the volunteers wanted flyer.](#)

[Join CoCoRaHS Volunteer Program](#)

Building a Weather-Ready Nation

Becoming a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador

What do Weather-Ready Nation Ambassadors Do?

Promote Preparedness and Resiliency:

- ✓ Follow our social media and share our hazardous weather and safety posts.

Collaborate with the NWS:

- ✓ Let us know how we can help you and your community become more weather ready.

Serve as an example:

- ✓ Educate employees on workplace preparedness and encouraging personal preparedness at home.



[Click here to Learn More about Becoming an Ambassador](#)

Scan the QR code to Apply today!

Safe Place Selfie Day April 3, 2024

#SafePlaceSelfie

Join us on April 3, 2024

*Extreme weather could occur at any time.
Wherever you may be, know your safe place.*



Learn your area's weather hazards!



At your usual locations, find safe places that could protect you!



Take selfies in your safe places!



On April 3, post your photos using #SafePlaceSelfie!










Follow NWS Springfield

