



MICON / EC Meeting

Spring 2022



White Lake MI. July 24



Wyandotte MI



Lapeer MI

August 12

Outline

National Weather Service

- Introductions
- NWS COVID-19 Update
- Review Winter Season
- Severe Weather Season Prep
 - Brief Review of 2021
 - NWS Updates
 - Text Messaging

MICON

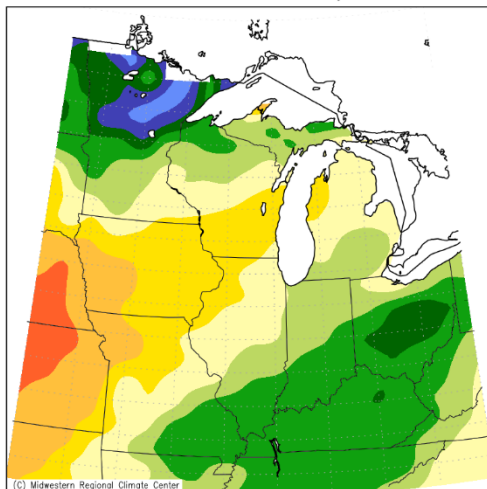
COVID NWS IMPACTS

- DOC ends emergency on April 25, 2022
- Local NWS office status tied to new CDC guidelines with some time lagging
 - High - orange
 - All Outreach, Skywarn & Meetings virtually
 - No Visitors...MICON activation would be virtual
 - Medium - yellow
 - Some mission critical visitors...including MICON activation status
 - Outreach will scheduled and conducted
 - Low - green
 - Pre-COVID posture but utilizing efficiencies gained during COVID
- No vax status or negative test requirements for NWS visitors
- Local, Regional and NWS flexibilities for 60 days (June 25)

WINTER 2021-2022

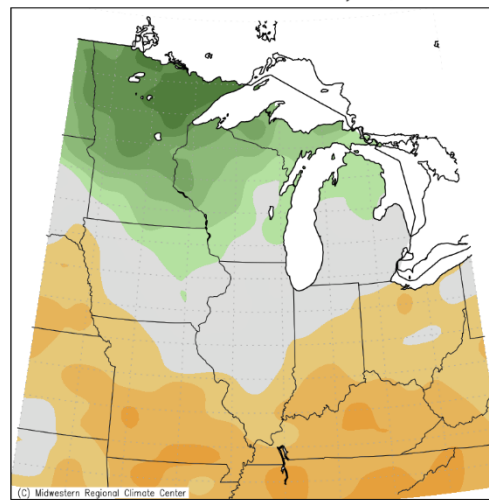
- Weak La Nina. Just a bit weaker than last year:
 - Average Precipitation
- Temperatures
 - Warm to start; Cold Jan&Feb; High Variability so far this Spring
- Snow:
 - Around average.

Accumulated Precipitation: Percent of Mean
December 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022



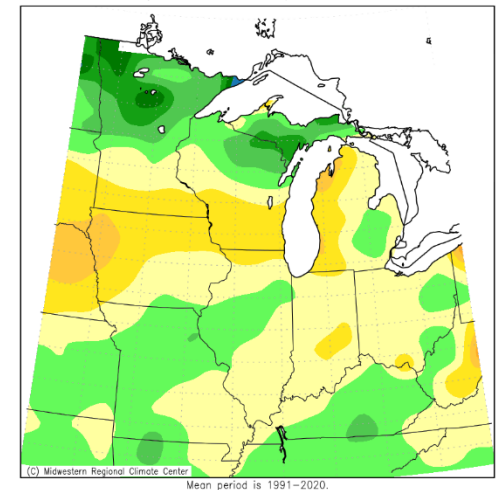
10 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 300
Midwestern Regional Climate Center
Purdue University

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean
December 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022



-8 -6 -4 -2 0 2 4
Midwestern Regional Climate Center
Purdue University

Accumulated Snowfall (in): Departure from Mean
July 1, 2021 to April 4, 2022



-40 -20 0 20 40 60
Midwestern Regional Climate Center
Purdue University

**Winter Season 2021-2022
Through April 6
Snowfall (Inches)**

	DETROIT	FLINT	SAGINAW	WHITE LAKE
OCT-NOV	7.1	5.9	2.6	8.7
DEC	3.3	9.6	9.4	8.4
JAN	8.8	13.9	9.8	11.6
FEB	20.4	22.5	10.3	19.0
MAR-APR (to date)	5.2	7.3	3.8	5.3
Total	44.8	59.2	35.9	53.0
Normal	45.0	52.1	49.0	50s

Winter 2021-2022

DTX	Warnings	Warnings Verified	Events	Watches	Watches Verified	Warning Lead Time (hrs)	Watch Lead Time (hrs)
2021-22	20	7	11	23	7	19.4	36.2

- 11 Events is below average
 - Average ~30
 - Most from February 2-3 storm & February 17 storm
- Remember Winter Storm Criteria
 - Combination of rate and total
 - 6 inches in 8 hours
 - 8 inches in 12 hours or more

2021 Severe Weather Review

Stat	2021	Average (2008-2021)
Number of Warnings	150	90
Number of Severe Events*	232	180
Severe Weather Detection Rate	88%	86%
Average Lead Time (min.)	22.8	21.3
Tornadoes	8	5

*Severe Event = 1+ inch diameter hail, 58+ mph wind (or equivalent damage), or tornado

- **8 Southeast Michigan Tornadoes**
 - Lenawee County June 20th: 1 EF1 (Last tornado in Lenawee County was in 2010)
 - Huron County June 26th: 1 EF2
 - SE MI Tornado Outbreak July 24th: 1 EF0, 3 EF1
 - Oakland County October 3rd: 1 EF0
 - St. Clair County October 14th: 1 EF0
- **18 Michigan Tornadoes (Average 15)**

Nearly all 232 severe reports directly from Spotters. Thank You!!!

Wireless Emergency Alerts for Severe Thunderstorms

- ▶ Started August 2 (DTX issued one on August 11)

Considerable / Destructive Tags

Thunderstorm Damage Threat (tag category)	Wind	Hail diameter	WEA?
Base (no tag; default)	58 mph (60 mph will appear in the warning)	1.00 inch (U.S. quarter)	NO
Considerable	70 mph	1.75 inch (golfball)	NO
Destructive	80 mph	2.75 inch (baseball)	YES

Flood Product Consolidation

Current Products

Flash Flood Watch
Flood Watch

Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory
Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisory
Small Stream Flood Advisory
Flood Advisory
Hydrologic Advisory

New Consolidated Products

Flood Watch*

*Flash Flood Watches will still be issued for non-convective events (e.g., dam break) or excessive rain over a burn scar

Flood Advisory



■ Started November 4

NWS Radar Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)

- Mid to Late January 2022: Pedestal SLEP
 - Radar Down Time: Two Weeks
- Last SLEP Project: Shelter Replacements
 - TBD-Rescheduling from May 2022
 - Radar Down Time: About one week
- Alternate Radars
 - CLE, APX, GRR, IWX, DTW TDWR and even CASET

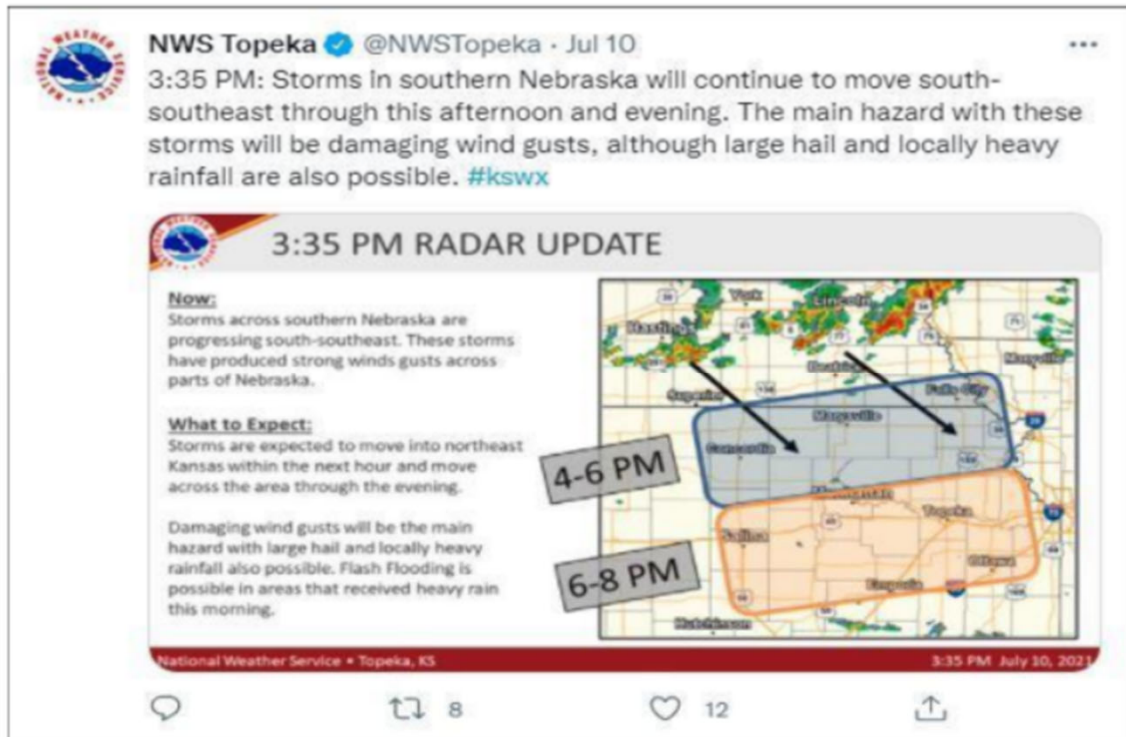


<https://twitter.com/i/status/1487113843914379268>

Watch to Warning Gap

- Many NWS Service Assessments have highlight the need for more information between when the Watch is issued and when warnings are issued
- “Information” could include:
 - Timing
 - Development or Dissipation
 - Expect Changes in Intensity
 - Expect Changes in Storm Mode or Threats
- Goals:
 - More SA about this “Gap”
 - Understanding the “Gap” still exists when warnings start for one part of the CWA
 - Information dissemination via:
 - Social Media (mostly Twitter)
 - SPSs/Graphicasts
 - NWSChat

Watch to Warning Gap



NWSChat meso-update example from May 8:

01:35Z <nwseax-KC- Jared Leighton> 8:30 PM severe weather update: The storms in northeast Kansas remain a bit scattered, but this will change as the storms grown into a severe thunderstorm complex. We expect that to take place over the next hour or two. Once that complex forms it will move E/SE toward the I-70 corridor and the KC Metro. The general path we are looking for the complex to follow will be the warm front, which is currently running along (or slightly north) of I-70 in eastern Kansas, and is arcing SE'wd toward the southern KC metro. Areas well north of that boundary should remain in low end severe risk through the night, but areas along and south will see the best chance at some damaging winds and an outside chance at a spinup or two along the line. The timing is still expected to be around midnight (give or take an hour, depending on location). Still expecting areas of 60 (or so) mph winds, with isolated areas

SPOTTER ACTIVATION SYSTEM

- Tested SMS option for Skywarn Recognition Day in December
 - Success!
 - Email notification has been lost
- MICON Pre-Page list is small enough to continue with email to phones
 - Will work with Randy to make sure list is up to date
- Testing?
 - March 23 Spotter Activation used the old email (surprising with some success)
 - Do we want another SMS test before declaring it “operational”
- New entries need to enter their data into:
 - <https://www.weather.gov/dtx/dsslist>
 - Updates to list will require entry into form or email Richard.pollman@noaa.gov

NWS QUESTIONS

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