



SPOTTER NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022

Upcoming Dates

- November 1, 2022–
Winter Spotter Webinar
- November 6th – 12th, 2022 –
Michigan Winter Weather Awareness
Week
- December 3th, 2022–
Skywarn Recognition Day

In this Issue

- 2022 Severe Weather Review
- Notable Severe Weather Events
- La Niña Pattern
- Winter Outlook 2022-2023
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- National Water Prediction Center
- CoCoRaHS

Welcome to the fall edition of the SKYWARN Spotter Newsletter!

Hello from all of us at the NWS Detroit/Pontiac office! We thank you again for all of your severe weather reports this spring and summer.

With winter already making itself known, it is time to start thinking about the winter weather season and Winter Spotter Training. This year, we are finally back to in-person training. We will also still be offering a virtual training session. We hope you enjoy this year's presentation, whether it is virtual or in person.

As always, be sure to check out our website for the latest information and forecasts. Supplementary forecast information can also be found at:



Southeast Michigan Severe Stats

Stat	2022 (through Oct. 31)	Average (2008-2019)
Warnings Issued	62	97
Severe Reports Received	103	189
Severe Weather Detection Rate	91%	82%
Average Lead Time	24.8 min	25.9 min
Tornadoes	3	5

The 2022 severe weather season was heading towards historically low numbers until two events in August brought the numbers up little. Overall, southeast Michigan still came in well below the average in terms of warnings issued, reports received, and number of tornado occurrences.





House near Lake Fenton



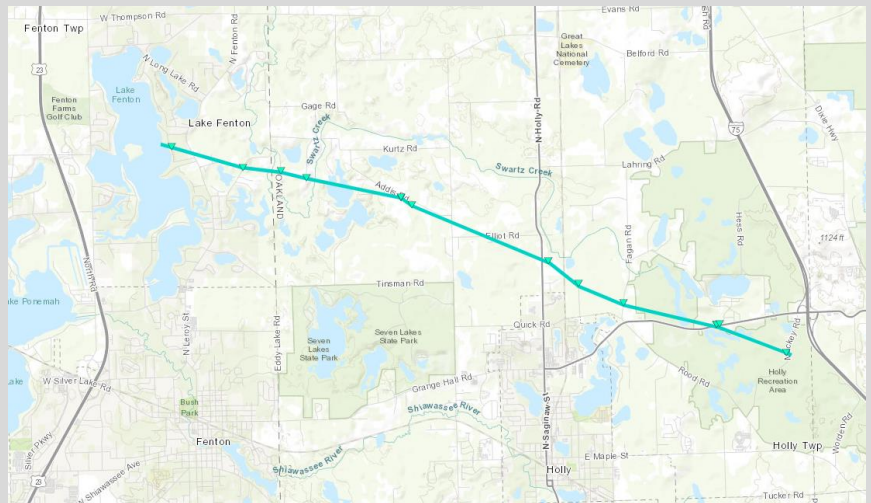
Vinyl Siding Panels



Metal Roofing

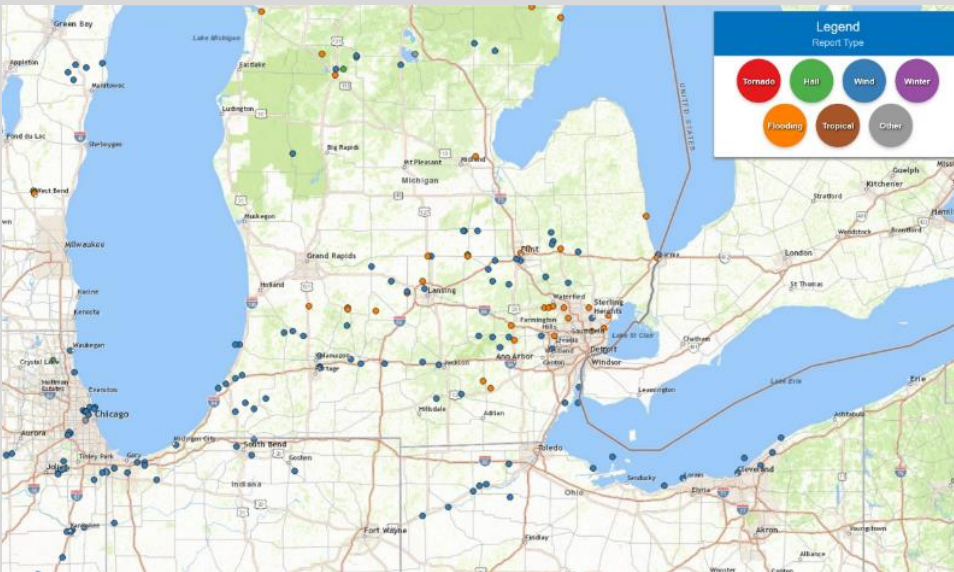
Weakened thunderstorms traversed Lake Michigan during the afternoon hours on July 11, 2022, and largely dissipated upon arrival to Southeast Michigan. A second round of convection worked through late evening ahead of an advancing cold front as a more unstable environment developed ahead of an advancing cold front. Severe thunderstorm warnings were issued between I-69 and M-59 from 10:41 PM until 1 AM as the strongest lead storm progressed eastward. The storm produced an EF-0 tornado that touched down near the eastern shores of Lake Fenton before lifting 3 miles ESE of Holly, just west of I-75. Several homes, outbuildings, and trees sustained varying degrees of damage. Damaging severe thunderstorm wind gusts redeveloped as the storm crossed through Lapeer causing additional tree and utility line damage.

Date	July 11, 2022
Time (Local)	11:33 PM - 11:42 PM EDT
EF Rating	EF-0
Est. Peak Winds	65 mph
Path Length	7.5 miles
Max Width	40 yards
Injuries/Deaths	0/0



An organized line of thunderstorms brought widespread strong to severe thunderstorms across SE MI through the afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms initially became more organized across the Tri-Cities and northern Thumb during the early afternoon and brought widely scattered wind gusts between 50-60 mph, which resulted in numerous reports of downed trees and powerlines. Severe thunderstorms continued to expand southward during the late afternoon, while new storms developed just ahead of the initial line, along an expanding outflow boundary. Given the moderate to strong instability in place, thunderstorms continued to produce widely scattered damaging wind gusts as they approached the northern Metro region. A Mesoscale Convective Vortex (MCV) eventually caught up with the line in the evening hours which continued the threat of severe weather across the Metro region. Over 100,000 homes and businesses were without power after the thunderstorms moved through. For an addition in-depth environmental overview, please see the 'Environment' Section.

Madison Heights, MI / Credit: Suzanna Costa



Lake Orion, MI / Credit: Ben Redmon



Novi, MI / Credit: Nick Dewhirst



Livonia, MI / Credit: Twitter @Erinfay



Royal Oak, MI / Credit: Ryan Jake Jakubowski



Ann Arbor, MI
Credit: Johnny Delpizzo



Monroe, MI
Credit: Mike Frey



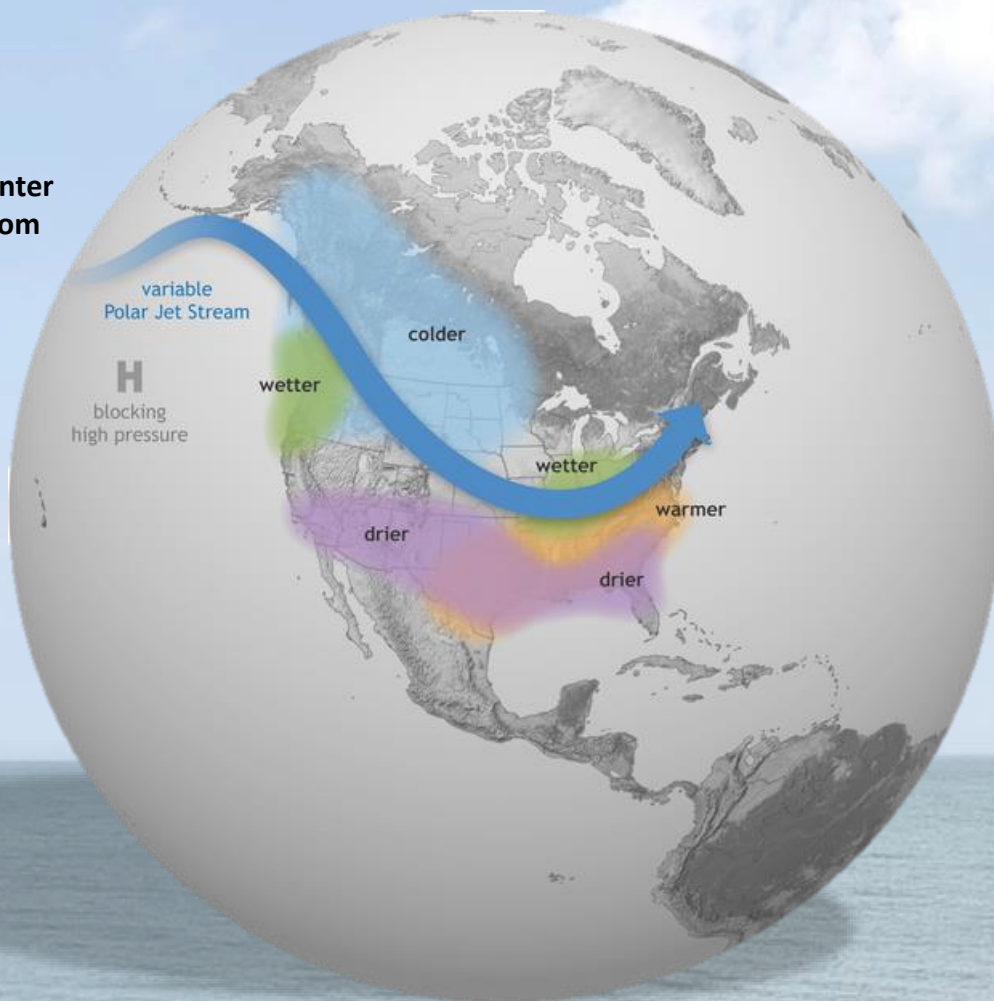
Wolverine Lake, MI
Credit: Nolan Waters

A squall line raced across southern lower Michigan during the afternoon and evening of August 29, 2022, leaving widespread wind damage in its path. This line of storms developed ahead of a cold front and tracked into the region from the Chicago area, expanding in coverage and intensity as they encountered a warm, muggy, and unstable atmosphere over Southeast Michigan. Gusts of 60 to 75 mph were responsible for damage to trees, power lines, and property and left over 375,000 customers without power. Several gustnadoes were reported along the leading edge of the strong gust front in Cambridge Twp, Highland Twp, Putnam/Hamburg Twp, Richmond, and Fort Gratiot, producing localized corridors of enhanced damage.

La Niña Continues!

There is a 75% chance of La Niña during the Northern Hemisphere winter (December-February) 2022-23, with a 54% chance for ENSO-neutral in February-April 2023.

Image: Typical Winter La Niña pattern from NOAA Climat.gov

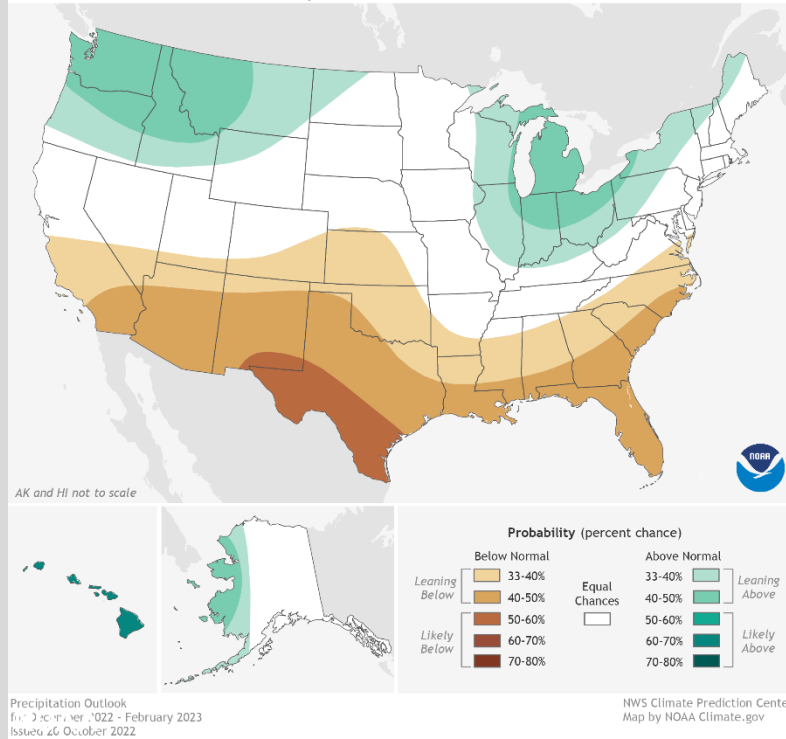


This means we will likely be facing the third La Niña winter in a row. This is the third time in our historical record of ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation, the whole El Niño and La Niña system), which dates back to 1950, that we have had three La Niña winters in a row.

Precipitation Outlook

- Wetter-than-average conditions are most likely in western Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, northern Rockies, Great Lakes and Ohio Valley.
- The greatest chances for drier-than-average conditions are forecast in portions of California, the Southwest, the southern Rockies, southern Plains, Gulf Coast and much of the Southeast.
- The remainder of the U.S. falls into the category of equal chances for below-, near-, or above-average seasonal total precipitation.

Winter 2022-23: U.S. Precipitation Outlook



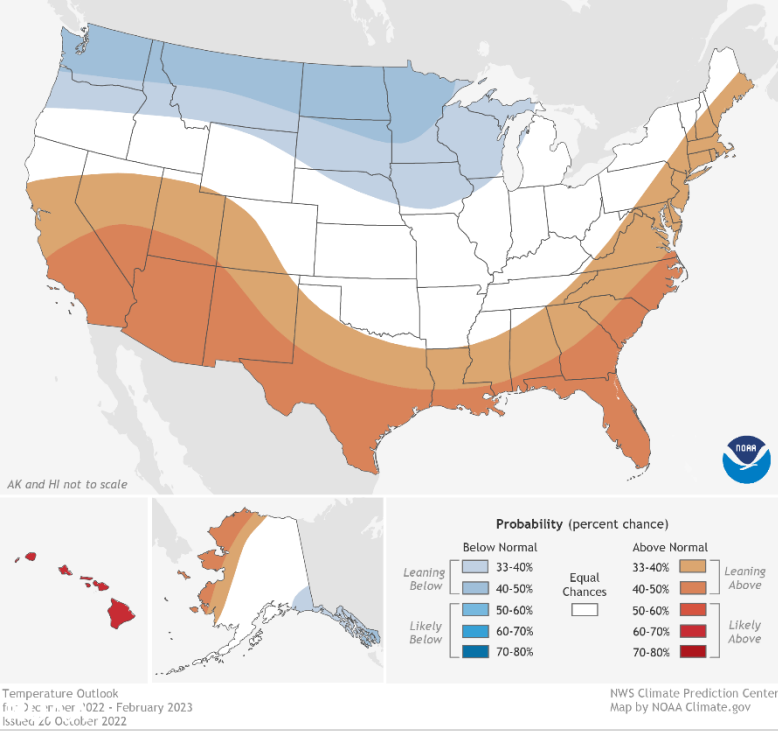
Southeast Michigan has a **40-50% chance of above normal precipitation** this winter. Note: this is not a snowfall outlook.

Temperature Outlook

- The greatest chance for warmer-than-average conditions are in western Alaska, and the Central Great Basin and Southwest extending through the Southern Plains.
- Warmer-than-average temperatures are also favored in the Southeastern U.S. and along the Atlantic coast.
- Below-normal temperatures are favored from the Pacific Northwest eastward to the western Great Lakes and the Alaska Panhandle.

All of Southeast Michigan has **Equal Chances for above or below normal temperatures** this winter.

Winter 2022-23: U.S. Temperature Outlook



[Link to Video of the NOAA Winter Outlook](#)



A virtual winter spotter training course will be held on
Tuesday November 1, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Pre-registration is required

Topics Covered:

- Review of last year's winter weather
- Outlook for the coming winter
- Severe winter weather such as:
 - Snow,
 - Freezing rain
 - Snow squalls
 - High winds
 - Flooding
 - And more!
- Winter spotter reporting guidelines
- Winter weather safety information.

Webinar Registration Steps:

1. Register for the webinar via the link listed below.
2. You will receive a confirmation email. Use the link in this email to join the webinar a few minutes before 7pm on November 9th, 2021.

[Click For The Winter Skywarn Registration Link](#)

Six Basic Steps for Properly MEASURING SNOW

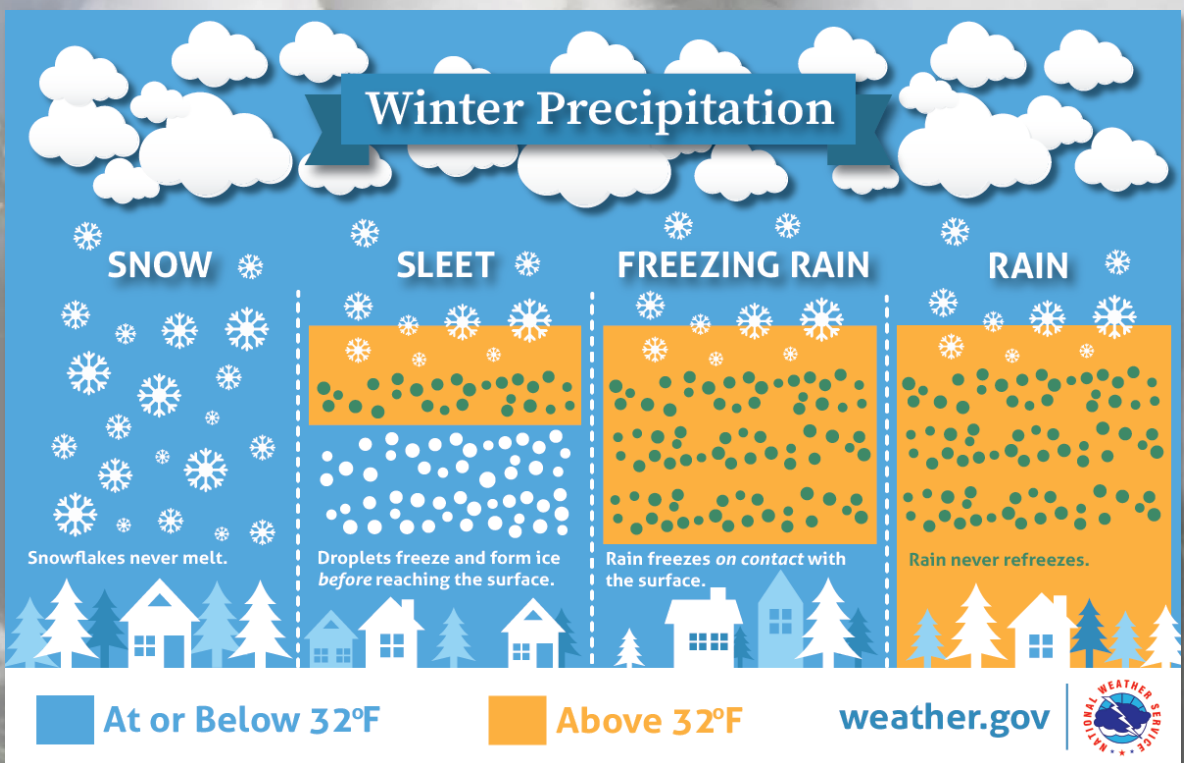
Accurate and timely snowfall measurements are extremely important to your National Weather Service office, your community, local media, and many others. Here are the six steps you need to know for measuring snow:

- 1 Supplies**
Ruler or yard stick
24" X 24" white board, flag
- 2 Planning**
Find an open area away from tall objects, but sheltered from wind
- 3 Set-up**
Set up before snow begins
Put your board out and mark it with the flag
- 4 Measuring Snow**
Record your total to the nearest tenth of an inch
Wipe the board off after measuring
Measure once daily at the same time, after measuring place the board on top of snow
- 5 When Snow Stops**
Measure as soon as the snow stops to avoid lower totals due to melting, settling and drifting
- 6 Reporting**
weather.gov social media
SEND us your report!

In-Person Winter Spotter Training

Topics covered will be the same as the virtual presentation, which is featured on the previous page.

Date / Time	Location	Address
Wednesday, Nov. 9 th @ 7 PM	Waterford Oaks Conference Center	2800 Watkins Lake Rd Waterford, MI



Winter Spotter Guidelines

Reporting Methods:



1-800-808-0006

Reports ONLY – answered 24/7



NWSDetroit



@NWSDetroit

#miwx



nwslidtx@noaa.gov

There are many forecast challenges involved with winter storms. Snowfall amounts and precipitation types can vary drastically over short distances! Timely and accurate reports from our spotters are vital to our operations and help ensure that our forecast is on track.

Send photos via social media!

Snow – nearest tenth of an inch (e.g. 3.4")

- When the first inch has fallen, then each additional two inches
- Storm total snowfall
- 12-hour snowfall amounts around 8am and 8pm



Flooding

- Any flooding that covers roads, impedes traffic, or threatens property
- Ice jams/blockages



Rain – nearest hundredth of an inch (e.g. 1.78")

- Amounts of one inch or greater over 24 hours



Dense Fog

- Visibility of a quarter mile or less
- When fog is impacting travel



Ice – nearest tenth of an inch (e.g. 0.2")

- Any freezing rain or sleet
- Ice that is having impacts on travel, damaging trees, and/or downing power lines



High Winds

- Wind gusts of 40 mph or greater
- Any damage caused by strong winds (trees, roofs, siding, etc.)



In late June, FEMA released a BIG update to their app, which is highly personalized for you and your family.

- ✓ Receive real-time weather alerts
- ✓ Find nearby resources
- ✓ Locate emergency shelters
- ✓and more!

<https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-products>



Download the FEMA App Today

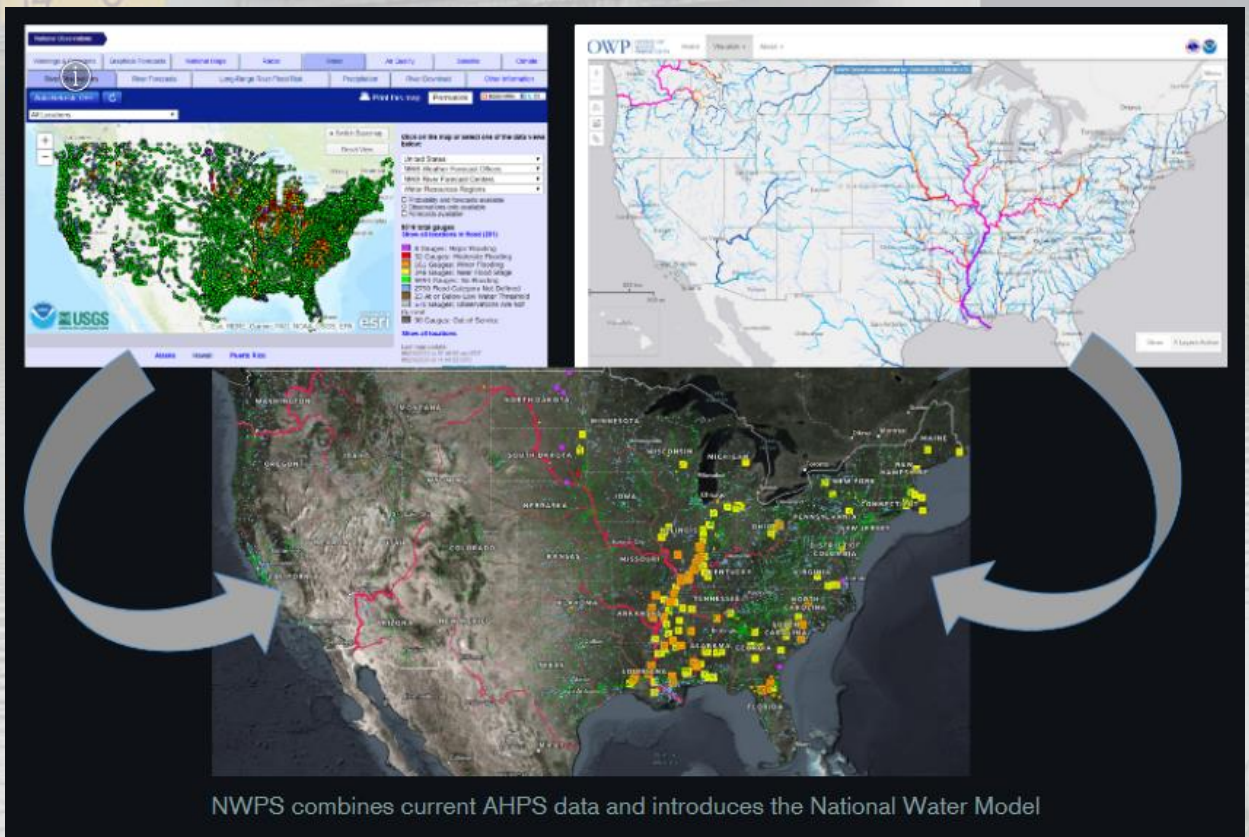
Get Access to:

- Weather Alerts
- Disaster Resources
- Preparedness Tips



[Link to the NWS Winter Safety Campaign Page](#)

Our 20+ year-old AHPS website is going to be replaced by the National Water Prediction Service (NWPS). To help introduce the look and feel of NWPS, we have created a user-centric StoryMap. This StoryMap contains descriptions of NWPS features, along with a set of short tutorial videos highlighting different aspects of the map and hydrograph displays. Current timeline for this replacement is to have a stability test during the 2022-2023 winter with implementation in the spring of 2023.



A User's Guide to NWPS





Link to the website
www.cocorahs.org

CoCoRaHS stands for the Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow Network. This program is separate from the National Weather Service spotter network. The program is a national program and the precipitation reports are shared among the National Weather Service and other government agencies, the media, and educational institutions. Participants in this program report their 24-hour rain and/or snow reports every morning around 7 am on a website.

The CoCoRaHS website has several resources for training on how get started a measure winter precipitation.

Training Materials

“In Depth” Snow Measuring

<https://cocorahs.org/media/docs/measuringSnow2.1.pdf>

Measuring Ice Accretion

https://www.cocorahs.org/media/docs/Training_IceAccretion.pdf

Animated Training Video Shorts

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL86DC4C330F518387>

More [online training slide shows](#).



Who Uses CoCoRaHS data?

- Weather Forecasters
- Climatologists
- Hydrologists
- Engineering
- Water Management
- Recreation
- Researchers
- Insurance Industries
- Agriculture
- ...and many others!





National Weather Service Detroit/Pontiac

Website

weather.gov/detroit

Address

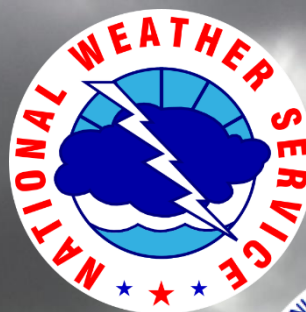
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