

# Winter Weather Alerts

## Freezing Rain Advisory

Any accumulation of freezing rain is expected in the next 12 to 36 hours (but will remain below a half inch) for at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population.

## Wind Chill Advisory

Wind chill is expected to exceed local wind chill advisory criteria in the next 12 to 36 hours. Wind chill temperatures may reach or exceed -15°F. See table at bottom of page.

## Winter Weather Advisory

A winter storm event (sleet, snow, freezing rain, snow and blowing snow, or a combination of events) is expected to meet or exceed local winter weather advisory criteria in the next 12 to 36 hours but stay below warning criteria. Criteria for snow is 4 inches or more in 12 hours or less covering at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger advisory (i.e., 2 to 5 inches of snow = advisory). Criteria for ice is any ice accumulation less than 1/2 inch over at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Winter Weather Advisory can also be issued for black ice. This is optional.

## Blizzard Watch

Conditions are favorable for a blizzard event in the next 24 to 72 hours. Sustained wind or frequent gusts greater than or equal to 35 mph will accompany falling and/or blowing snow to frequently reduce visibility to less than 1/4 mile for three or more hours.

## Wind Chill Watch

Conditions are favorable for wind chill temperatures to meet or exceed local wind chill warning criteria in the next 24 to 72 hours. Wind chill temperatures may reach or exceed -25°F.

## Winter Storm Watch

Conditions are favorable for a winter storm event (heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or a combination of events) to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 24 to 72 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50% of

## How Wind Chill Works

		Actual Temperature (°F)								
		40°	30°	20°	10°	0°	-10°	-20°	-30°	-40°
		How Cold It Feels								
Wind Speed (mph)	10	34°	21°	9°	-4°	-16°	-28°	-41°	-53°	-66°
	20	30°	17°	4°	-9°	-22°	-35°	-48°	-61°	-74°
	30	28°	15°	1°	-12°	-26°	-39°	-53°	-67°	-80°
	40	27°	13°	-1°	-15°	-29°	-43°	-57°	-71°	-84°
	50	26°	12°	-3°	-17°	-31°	-45°	-60°	-74°	-88°
	60	25°	10°	-4°	-19°	-33°	-48°	-62°	-76°	-91°

Frostbite times:  30 minutes  10 minutes  5 minutes

the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger a watch (i.e., 5 to 8 inches of snow = watch). Criteria for ice is 1/2 inch or more over at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population.

### **Blizzard Warning**

Blizzard event is imminent or expected in the next 12 to 36 hours. Sustained wind or frequent gusts greater than or equal to 35 mph will accompany falling and/or blowing snow to frequently reduce visibility to 1/4 mile for three or more hours.

### **Ice Storm Warning**

An ice storm event is expected to meet or exceed local ice storm warning criteria in the next 12 to 36 hours. Criteria for ice is 1/2 inch or more over at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population.

### **Wind Chill Warning**

Wind chill temperatures are expected to meet or exceed local wind chill warning criteria in the next 12 to 36 hours. Temperature may reach or exceed -25°F.

### **Winter Storm Warning**

A winter storm event (heavy sleet, heavy snow, ice storm, heavy snow and blowing snow, or a combination of events) is expected to meet or exceed local winter storm warning criteria in the next 12 to 36 hours. Criteria for snow is 7 inches or more in 12 hours or less; or 9 inches or more in 24 hours covering at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population. Use "mid-point" of snowfall range to trigger warning (i.e., 5 to 8 inches of snow = warning). Criteria for ice is 1/2 inch or more over at least 50% of the zone or encompassing most of the population.



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