New York State Winter Weather Awareness Week October 20th to October 26th, 2013

David J. Nicosia

Warning Coordination Meteorologist

NOAA's National Weather Service

Binghamton NY









Why do we need to be prepared for the upcoming winter?

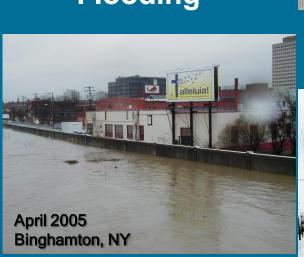
- New York State is known for its cold, snowy and icy winters, especially in upstate NY. However, every part of the state is vulnerable to big snow and ice storms and bitter cold.
- Winter weather can be dangerous if you are not prepared.

Annual Fatalities

- Annually 50 people are directly killed nationwide from winter storms and cold.
- Thousands more are killed in winter-related motor vehicle accidents. Many more are injured.
- Approximately 30 percent of fatalities due to winter storms come from automobile accidents. Many more are injuries from automobile accidents.
- Approximately 60 percent of fatalities occur when people get caught out in a storm.

Winter Hazards

- Heavy Snow
- Ice
- Cold Outbreaks
- Flooding











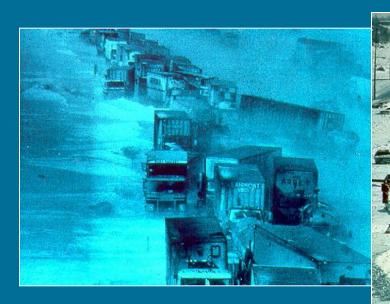
Snowstorm Definitions

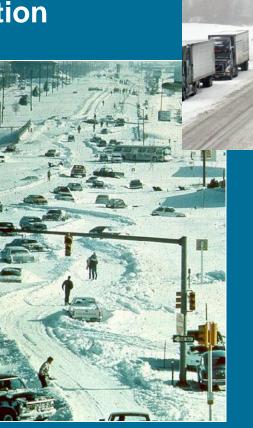
- Heavy Snow: 7 inches or more/12 hours.
- <u>Blizzard</u>: the most severe winter storm. Wind or wind gusts exceeding 35 mph for 3 hours or more combined with blowing and/or falling snow. Visibilities near zero. Widespread whiteout conditions.

Blizzards are a serious life-threatening weather hazard!!!!!

- Snow Squall: intense periods of snow with near blizzard or blizzard conditions at times.
- Snow Shower: intermittent accumulating snow
- Snow Flurries: very light snow with little or no accumulation.

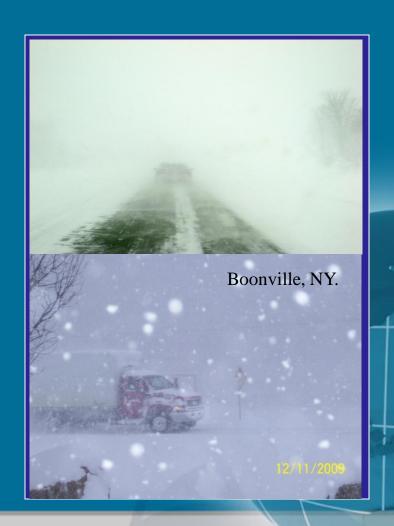
Disrupts Transportation





Buffalo, December 2010 Courtesy: Getty Images

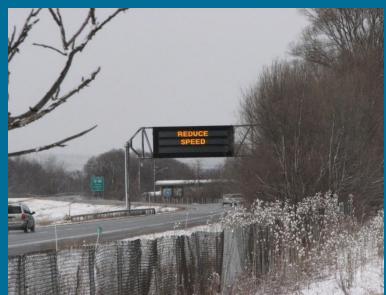
- Traffic Accidents
 - Driving too fast for conditions.
 - Suddenly driving into white-out conditions
 - Poor visibility.
 - Hitting a snow drift at high speeds.
 - Hitting snowy or icy patches at high speeds.



Dangerous Snow Squalls



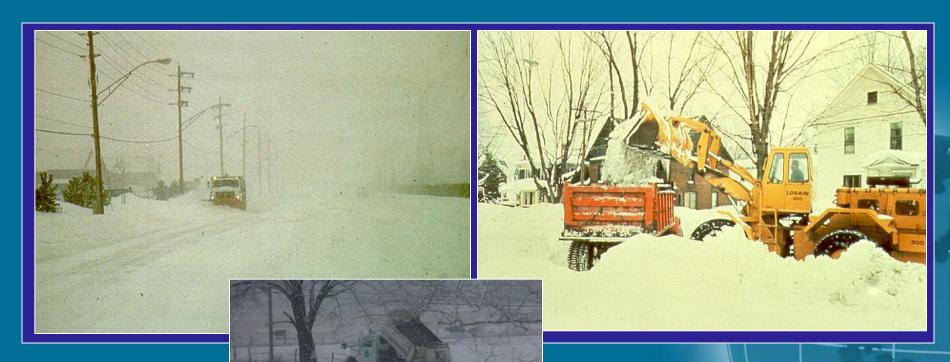
- Often occur along arctic frontal boundaries. Generally only minor snow accumulations
- But near zero visibility in heavy snow, and dangerous road conditions occur quickly.



Closes Schools and Businesses



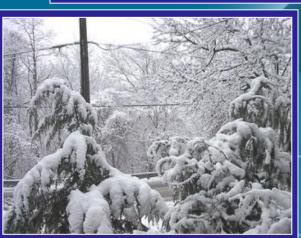
Cost of Plowing and Snow Removal



- Weight of heavy snow can cause roof collapse
- Break tree limbs and utility lines





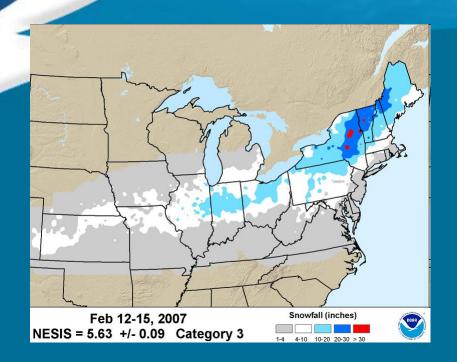


Blizzards

- The March 12-14 1993 Blizzard affected over 100 million people.
- Up to three feet of snow from Alabama to New York impacted 26 states.
 - Crippled economic activities of one-third of the U.S., economic losses exceeding \$2 billion, property losses at \$4 billion.
- All East Coast airports closed, 25% of nation's flights cancelled.
- Millions without power.
- 250 fatalities.

NOAA Satellite Image

Valentine's Day Snowstorm – 2007

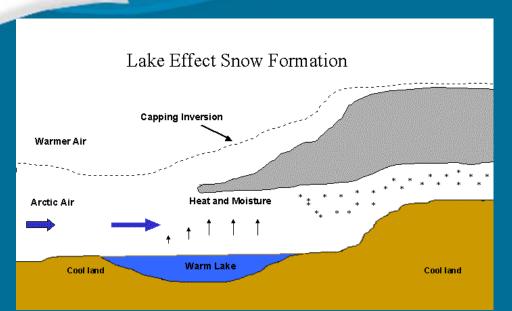


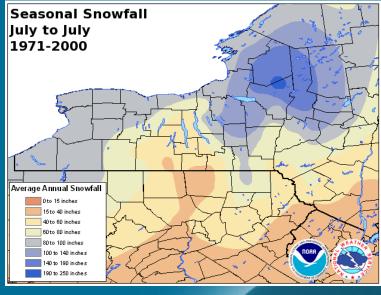
- Most intense portion of the storm occurred during the early morning on the 14th, with heavy snow and near blizzard conditions.
- Roof collapses occurred

- Over 30 in. of snow across the Catskills
- Highest = 39 inches in Roseboom (Otsego County)
- Most locations around central NY averaged between 15-30 inches
- Snow began Tuesday evening (2/13) and continued through the early morning hours on the 15th



Lake Effect Snow: Common in Upstate New York



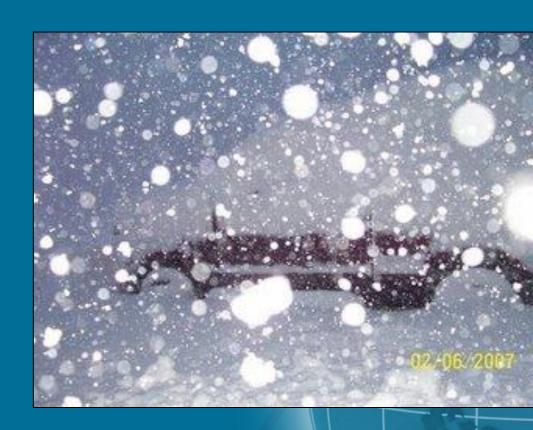


- Warm water heats air above
- Warm air is unstable and rises
- Snow bands form
- Mountains add additional lift



Record Lake Effect Snows February 3-12, 2007

- Incredibly Mild December 2006 and Early January 2007
- Cold arctic air returns for late January and February 2007
 - 10+ feet of snow fell in the lake effect snow belts of northern NY!



Ice Storms in New York

 Heavy weight of ice brings down trees and power lines.





January 1998

Ice Storms: Definitions

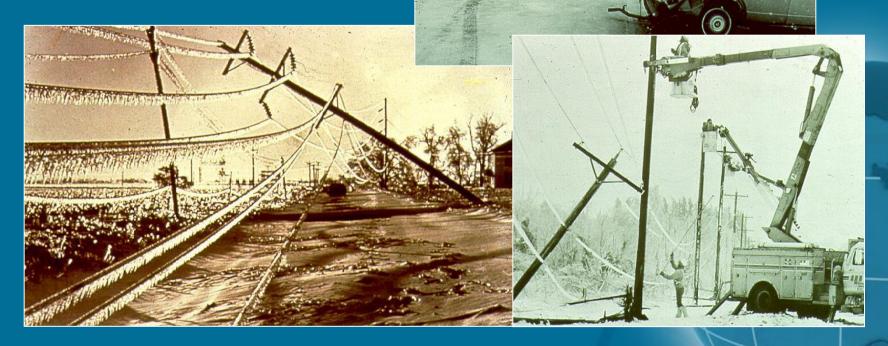
- Freezing rain: rain that freezes on contact with all exposed surfaces. Objects become encased in ice and can damage trees and power lines.
- Sleet: Frozen raindrops that bounce on impact with the ground. Does NOT glaze over or encase objects with ice.



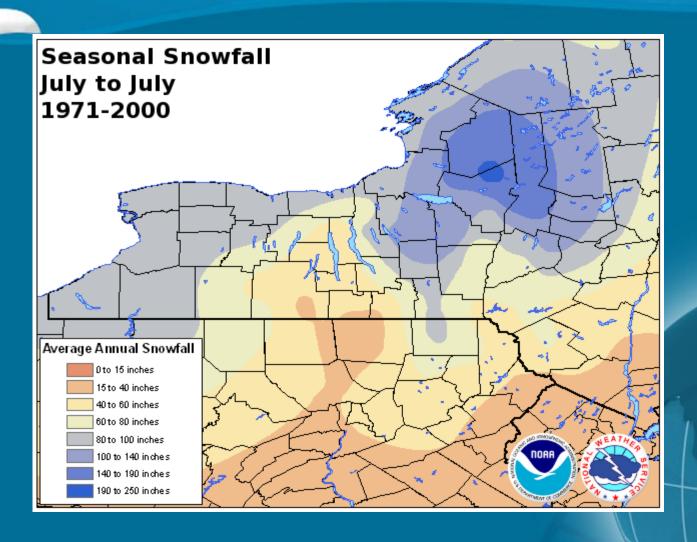


Ice Impacts

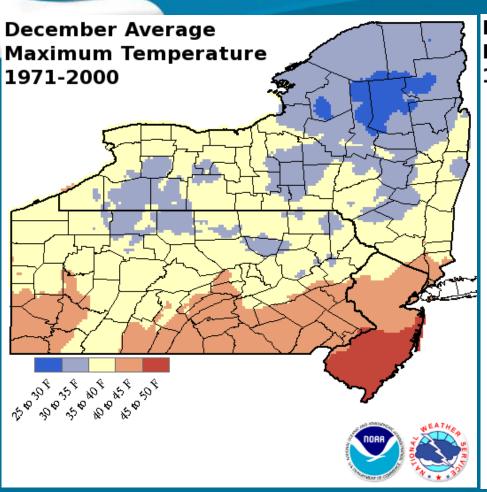
- Power and Communication lines come down
- Traffic accidents
- Pedestrian falls

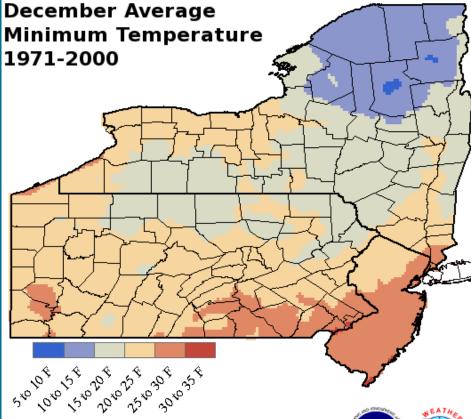


Normal Seasonal Snowfall

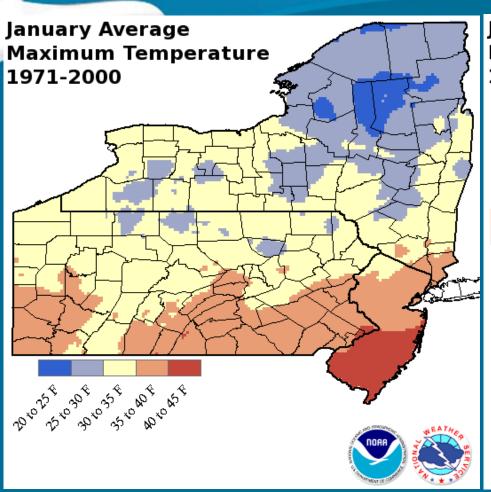


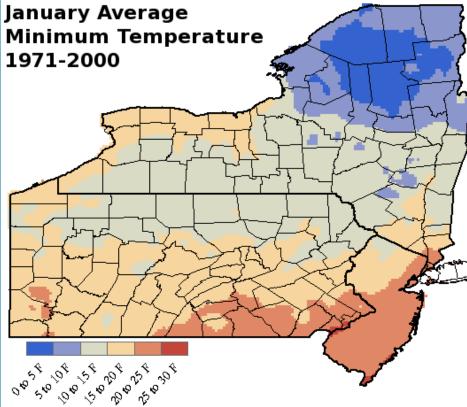
Normal High and Low Temperatures for December





Normal High and Low Temperatures for January

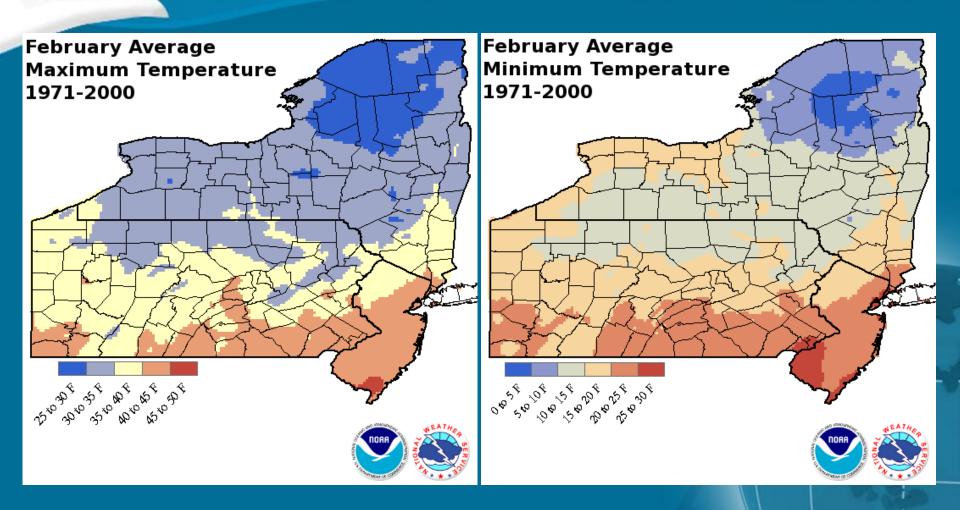








Normal High and Low Temperatures for February



Winter Weather Safety- At Home



- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and portable radio to receive emergency information.
- Extra food and water at least a 3-day supply.
- Extra medicine and baby items.
- First-aid supplies.
- Heating fuel.
- Emergency heating source, such as a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, etc.
- Fire extinguisher and smoke detector.

Winter Storm Survival Kit- Automobiles

- Blankets/sleeping bags;
- Flashlight with extra batteries;
- First-aid kit;
- Knife;
- High-calorie, nonperishable food;
- Extra clothing to keep dry;
- A large empty can and plastic cover with tissues and paper towels for sanitary purposes;

- A smaller can and water-proof matches to melt snow for drinking water;
- Sack of sand (or cat litter);
- Shovel;
- Windshield scraper and brush;
- Tool kit;
- Tow rope;
- **Booster cables**;
- Water container;
- Compass and road maps.

Automobile Safety in Winter Storms

- Plan your travel and check the latest weather reports to avoid the storm!
- Fully check and winterize your vehicle before the winter season begins.
- Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Try not to travel alone.

Let someone know your timetable and primary and alternate

routes.



Winter Watches

- Winter Storm Watch: Potential (50% chance or more) for a winter storm. A winter storm watch is used to cover all of the potential hazards from snow to ice to wind and extreme cold.
 - Potential exists for 7 inches of snow or more in 12 hours or less; 9 inches of snow or more in 24 hours or less.
 - Potential exists for ½ inch or more of ice.
- Blizzard Watch: Potential exists for blizzard conditions.
- Lake Effect Snow Watch: 7 inches or more of lake effect snow possible.
- Wind Chill Watch: Potential exists for wind chills of -25°F or less, with winds of ≥ 5 mph, lasting longer than one hour.



Winter Warnings

Winter Storm Warning

- 7 inches of snow or more in 12 hours or 9 inches of snow or more in 24 hours.
- Dangerous combination of snow, ice, low wind chill, and/or blowing/drifting snow.

Lake Effect Snow Warning

- 7 inches or more of lake effect snow in 12 hours
- Localized accumulations; not all areas will see heavy lake effect snow.

Ice Storm Warning

1/2 inch or more of ice.

Blizzard Warning

 Blizzard conditions expected: Wind or wind gusts exceeding 35 mph for 3 hours or more combined with blowing and/or falling snow. Visibilities near zero. Widespread whiteout conditions.

Wind Chill Warning

Wind Chills of -25F or less





Winter Advisories

- Winter Weather Advisory:
 - 4 to 6 inches of snow.
 - Hazardous combination of snow, ice, low wind chill, and/or blowing/drifting snow.
- Freezing Rain Advisory
 - Any accumulation of ice
- Lake Effect Snow Advisory
 - 4 to 6 inches of lake effect snow
- Wind Chill Advisory:
 - Wind chills of -15°F to -24°F



Advisories vs. Warnings

 Advisories are issued for significant winter weather events that could be life-threatening if proper precautions are not taken.

 Warnings are issued when the event can be lifethreatening even with precautions.

Wind Chill



NWS Windchill Chart



									Tem	pera	ture	(°F)							
	Calm	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45
	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-52	-57	-63
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41	-47	-53	-59	-66	-72
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45	-51	-58	-64	-71	-77
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48	-55	-61	-68	-74	-81
Ě	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51	-58	-64	-71	-78	-84
Ë	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53	-60	-67	-73	-80	-87
Wind (mph)	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-82	-89
M	40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71	-78	-84	-91
	45	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-72	-79	-86	-93
	50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	-67	-74	-81	-88	-95
	55	25	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46	-54	-61	-68	-75	-82	-89	-97
	60	25	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-84	-91	-98
					Frostb	ite Tin	nes	30	0 minut	tes	10	0 minut	es [5 m	inutes				
Wind Chill (°F) = 35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V ^{0.16}) + 0.4275T(V ^{0.16}) Where, T= Air Temperature (°F) V= Wind Speed (mph) Effective 11/01/0							1/01/01												

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/windchill/index.shtml

Keeping Informed This Winter



Hazardous Weather Outlook

1 to 7 Day Outlook

Text Product

Issued daily at 5 am, 4 pm and updated as needed

Go To www.weather.gov

ZCZC ALBHWOBGM FLUS41 KBGM 110103 HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BINGHAMTON NY 803 PM EST SAT FEB 10 2007

NYZ023>025-044>046-055>057-062-PAZ038>040-043-044-047-048-072-120115-SCHUYLER-CHEMUNG-TOMPKINS-CORTLAND-CHENANGO-OTSEGO-TIOGA-BROOME-DELAWARE-SULLIVAN-BRADFORD-SUSQUEHANNA-NORTHERN WAYNE-WYOMING-LACKAWANNA-LUZERNE-PIKE-SOUTHERN WAYNE-803 PM EST SAT FEB 10 2007

THIS HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK IS FOR PORTIONS OF CENTRAL NEW YORK...SOUTHEASTERN NEW YORK AND NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA.

.DAY ONE...TONIGHT

NO HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED THIS PERIOD.

.DAYS TWO THROUGH SEVEN...

THE POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR SIGNIFICANT SNOWFALL TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY. THE POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR SIGNIFICANT SNOWFALL FROM A COASTAL STORM TUESDAY INTO WEDNESDAY. THERE IS STILL MUCH UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE TRACK OF THIS STORM. THERE IS STILL A CHANCE THAT THE HEAVIEST SNOW STAYS SOUTH AND EAST OF THE REGION. .SPOTTER INFORMATION STATEMENT... SPOTTER ACTIVATION WILL NOT BE NEEDED.

.SPOTTER CALL TO ACTION STATEMENT...

FORMAL SKYWARN ACTIVATION IS NOT ANTICIPATED TODAY OR TONIGHT. HOWEVER...SNOW SPOTTERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CALL IN THEIR REPORTS TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BINGHAMTON. \$\$

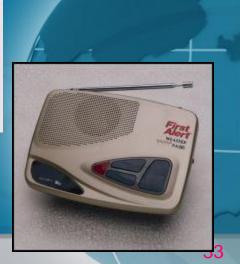
NOAA Weather Radio: The Voice of the National Weather Service











http://weather.gov

HOME

FORECAST

PAST WEATHER

WEATHER SAFETY

INFORMATION CENTER

NFWS

SEARCH

ABOUT

Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code

Enter location .

Go

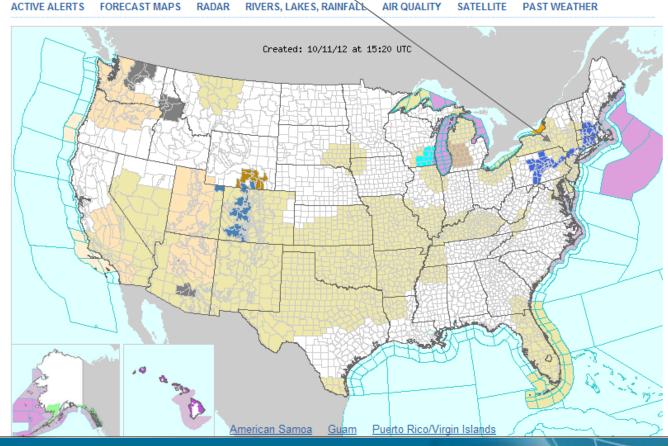
Location Help

We Need Your Feedback! Take Our Weather Survey

The NWS is undertaking its annual research to better serve your needs. Please take our survey at the link below. The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete and need not be finished all at once. We also encourage you to take a moment and complete one or more of the additional sections focused on Hazardous Weather, Marine Weather, and Aviation Weather. Thank you. Read More...

Click here for NWS







Local forecast by "City, St" or Zip Code

City, St

Current Hazards Local Outlook

Storm Reports
Current Conditions

Rivers & Lakes

Observations

Snow/Rain Reports

Hurricanes

EM Page

eSpotter

AHPS

Satellite

Text Radar Imagery

Local National Forecasts Activity Planner

Air Quality

Hydrology

Space Weather

RSS/XML/Mobile Text

Marine

Models

Climate

Local National More...

Aviation Fire

National Outlooks

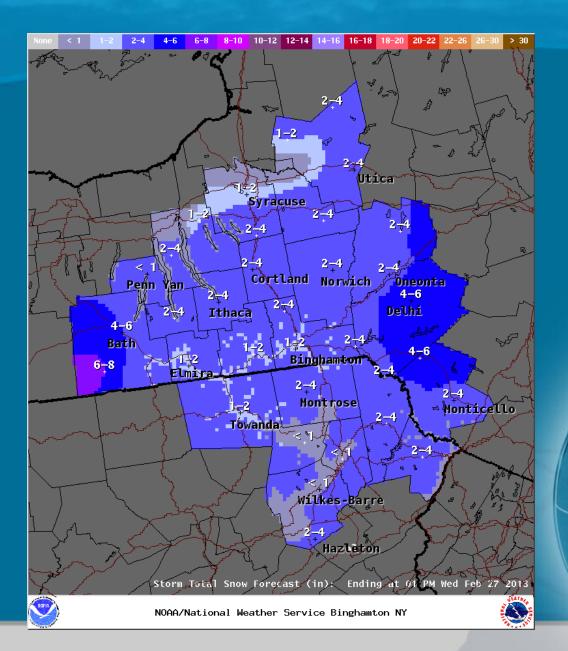
National Weather Service Forecast Office

Binghamton, NY

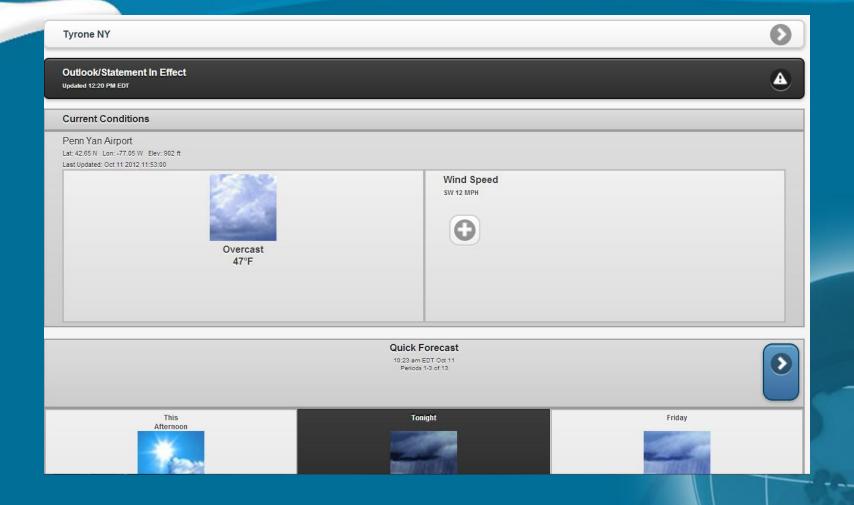
Organization O NWS O All NOAA Go Home News Search for: Top News - Past News Rain/Snow Reports or Storm Reports . Follow us on Twitter «Read More» · Rainfall Amounts? AHPS Precipitation Analysis · Weather Events «Read More» · Latest SKYWARN training information: «Read More» Click Map for forecasts and watches, Click to view the Hazardous Weather Outlool Central NY and Northeast PA Click on the map below for the latest forecast. warnings, statements and advisories Read watches warnings & advisories Utica Special Marine Warning Small Craft Advisory tt hac a Freeze Watch Hazardous Weather Bingh amton Outlook Short Term Forecast Monticello Scrant on Last map update: Thu, Oct. 11, 2012 at 11:25:06 am EDT Interactive Forecasts Report Severe Weather Weather Discussion: Lake effect showers will continue across oneida county, before lifting north out of the area midday. Another cold front will sweep through the region early on Friday, allowing cold Canadian high pressure to build in Friday night. A widespread freeze is expected Saturday morning. See Full Discussion Graphical Hourly **Text Forecasts Quick Forecast** Forecast Images Weather Graph

35

Snowfall Forecasts on Website



http://mobile.weather.gov



http://mobile.weather.gov

Full Forecast	•
Radar	•
Satellite	•
Forecast Discussion	•
Forecast Graphics	•
Rivers/Lakes	€
More Info	
Tropical Weather	•
Marine/Tides	•
Astronomical Data	•
Tsunami	€
Tweet a #wxreport	6

Facebook



Twitter



Rockland County Local Weather Resources

Tune to local weather and emergency radio and television stations: WHUD 100.7FM, WRCR 1300AM, or Rockland Information Station 1640 AM

On the web:

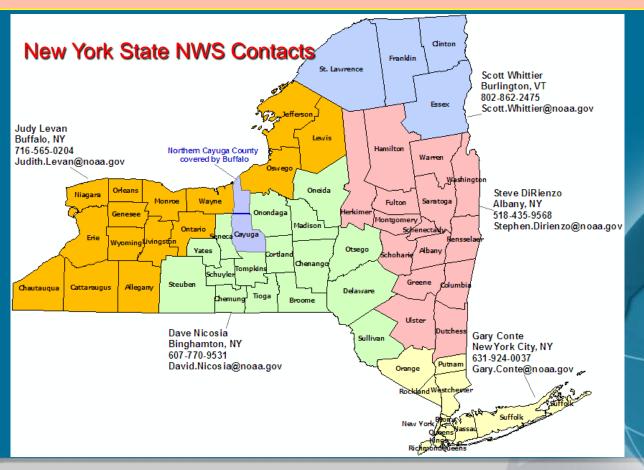
www.rocklandgov.com

www.facebook.com/RCFireandEmergency

www.twitter.com/rockofes

Share storm photos:

Rocklanddamages@gmail.com



More on Winter Weather Preparedness

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/index.shtml

