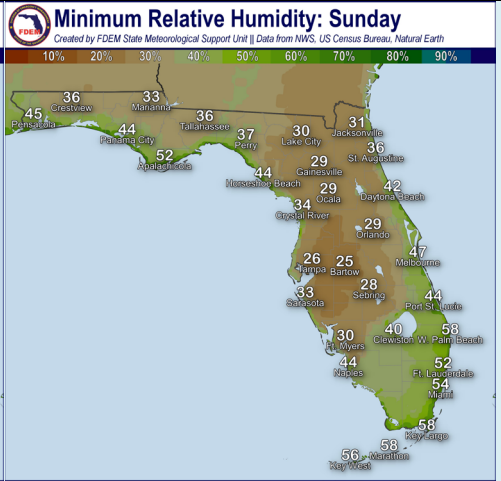
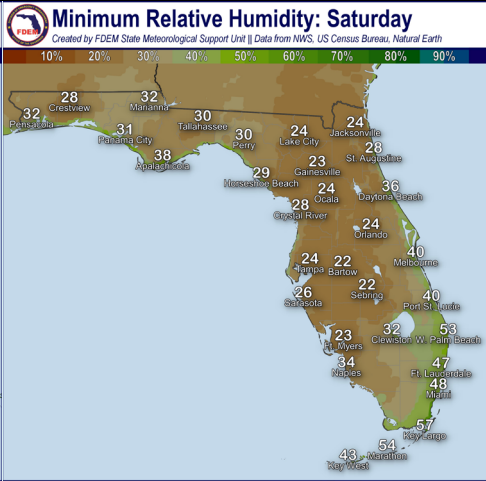
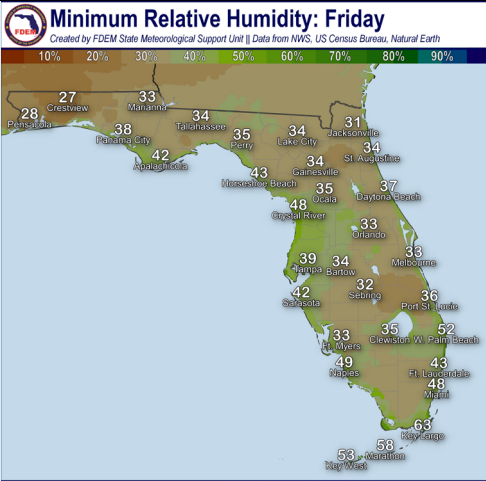


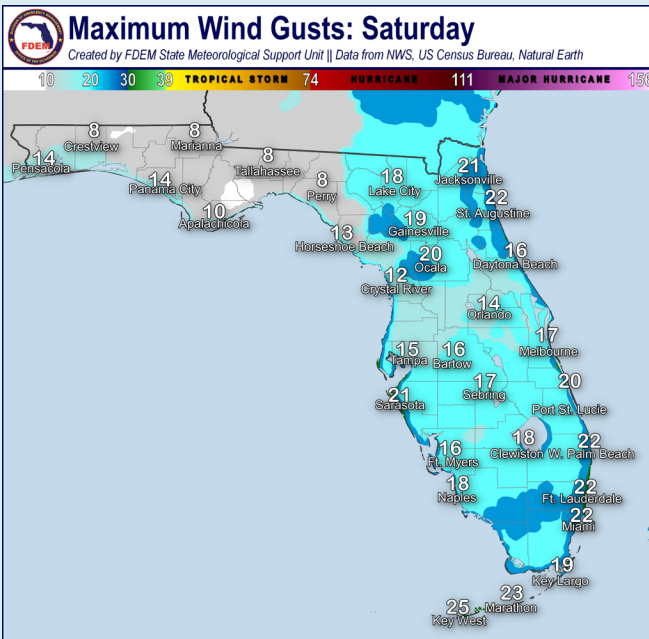
Friday, April 12, 2024

5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook

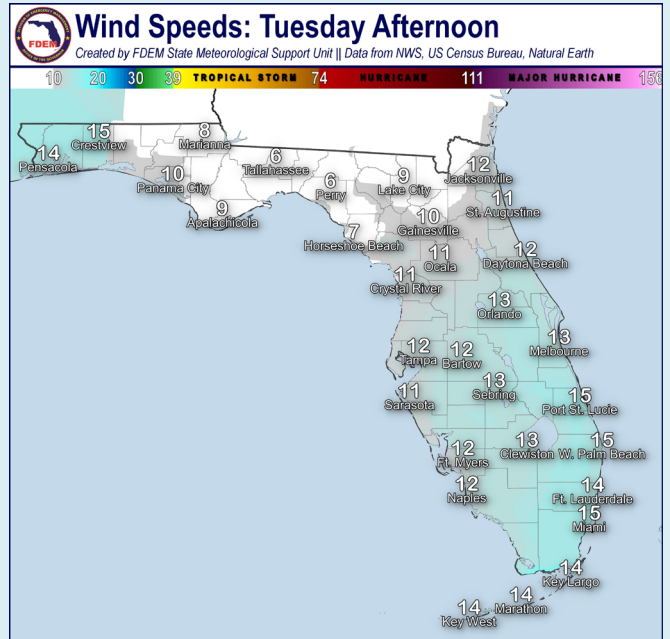
No Threat			Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat	
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind	Hail	Flash Flooding	Wildfire	Riverine Flooding	Rip Currents
Fri						Central FL Statewide	Big Bend Panhandle & Suwannee Valley	Panhandle, W & SE Coast East Coast
Sat						N, Central, & SW FL Elsewhere	Big Bend Panhandle & Suwannee Valley	Panhandle, W & SE Coast East Coast
Sun						Central FL N & Central FL	Big Bend Panhandle & Suwannee Valley	Statewide W-Coast
Mon						Locally N & Central FL	Big Bend Panhandle & Suwannee Valley	Statewide W-Coast
Tue						Locally N & Central FL	Big Bend Panhandle & Suwannee Valley	Panhandle Statewide Locally



Minimum Relative Humidity: Friday, Saturday, Sunday



Forecast Maximum Wind Gusts: Saturday



Forecast Wind Speeds: Tuesday Afternoon



...A Cool And Dry High-Pressure Air Mass Building In This Weekend Will Promote Mostly Sunny and Dry Conditions Into Next Week...Sensitive to Elevated Wildfire Conditions Expected Statewide Over the Next 5 Days...Elevated to Critical Wildfire Conditions Possible In Central Florida...Red Flag Warnings Cannot Be Ruled Out...Breezy Wind Gusts Near 15-25 MPH Linger Into The Weekend; Likely Re-Strengthening Tuesday...River Flood Warnings Have Been Issued For Numerous Florida Panhandle and Suwannee Valley Rivers As Minor to Moderate Flooding Is Forecast In Response to Recent Heavy Rainfall...Moderate to High Risk For Rip Currents Today and Saturday Reducing To a Low to Moderate Risk Sunday Through Tuesday... Scattered Low to High Blue-Green Algae Bloom Potential Was Observed On Lake George and The Mainstem Of The St. Johns River...

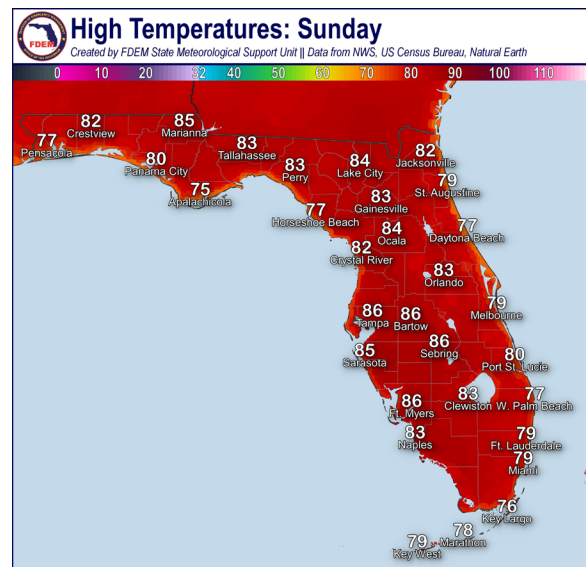
Friday-Sunday:

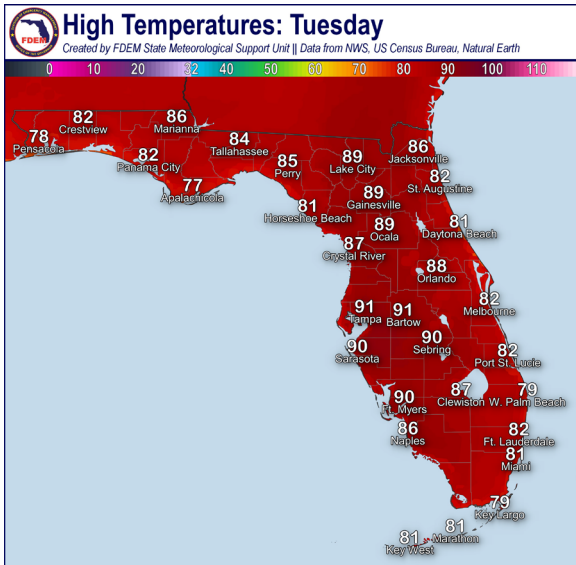
Mostly sunny skies and dry conditions return across the state today as a cool and dry high-pressure airmass builds over the state behind the recent cold front (near 0-5% chance of rain). Mostly sunny skies and near-zero rain chances will persist through the weekend as high pressure remains in place. High temperatures will rise into the middle to upper 70s along the Florida Panhandle and upper 70s to middle 80s elsewhere this afternoon. Temperatures will warm through the weekend with highs reaching the upper 70s to middle 80s statewide Saturday and Sunday. Temperatures will warm through the weekend with highs in the upper 70s to middle 80s statewide Saturday and Sunday. Coastal areas may see slightly cooler daytime temperatures than adjacent inland areas thanks to developing sea breezes.

Breezy winds will linger across the state today with **gusts reaching near 15-25 mph** statewide. **Locally stronger wind gusts upwards of 20-25 mph** will be possible along the Northern Peninsula, Southwest Coast, and Keys. Over the weekend winds will continue to gradually weaken; however, wind **gusts near 15-25 mph** will still be possible through the Peninsula Saturday and along Southeast Florida and the Keys Sunday. **Sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** will be possible across much of the state over the next 3 days as drier air moving in with the high pressure airmass brings relative humidity values **near or below critical thresholds (20-35%)**. The Northern and Central will likely see **elevated to locally critical wildfire conditions** as relative humidity values drop **below critical thresholds (20-30%)** over areas that are experiencing ongoing dry conditions. While some wildfire control issues are likely, saturated grounds and elevated fuel moisture from widespread heavy rainfall received over the last few days will help to minimize the overall wildfire threat and should preclude **Red Flag Warnings** today. **Red Flag Warnings** cannot be ruled out across North and Central Florida this weekend as fuels dry out and breezy winds linger, creating a **moderate risk for significant wildfire potential**.

Low temperatures will fall into the upper 40s to low 50s across North Florida tonight and Saturday night with middle to upper 50s across Central Florida, 60s across South Florida, and upper 60s to low 70s along the Keys. Conditions will warm slightly Sunday, with low temperatures remaining in the middle to upper 50s across North Florida, upper 50s to low 60s across Central Florida, 60s across South Florida, and low to middle 70s along the Keys. Coastal areas may see slightly warmer conditions than adjacent inland areas over the next 3 days.

Monday – Tuesday:





The high pressure airmass building over the state this weekend will gradually shift eastward over the Western Atlantic early next week. Remaining under the periphery of this area of high-pressure, the Sunshine State will continue to see near-zero rain chances and mostly sunny skies through the beginning of the week. High temperatures will rise into the middle 80s to low 90s across the state Monday and Tuesday with locally cooler temperatures along coastlines in the upper 70s to low 80s.

Winds near 5-10 mph with **higher gusts** are anticipated across the state Monday, increasing to 10-15 mph with **higher gusts** nearly statewide Tuesday as the area of high pressure shifts eastward. While moisture will begin to return Sunday through Tuesday as more southerly winds develop, **sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** will continue to be

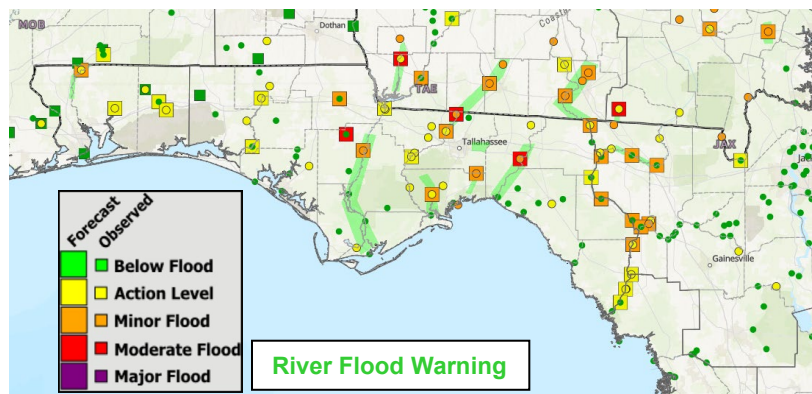
possible across North and Central Florida as relative humidity values fall **near or below critical thresholds (25-40%)** in the afternoons. **Red Flag Warnings** cannot be ruled out as winds begin to re-strengthen early next week.

Low temperatures will continue to fall into the middle to upper 50s across North Florida, upper 50s to low 60s across South Florida, middle to upper 60s across South Florida, and low to middle 70s along the Keys. By Tuesday, low temperatures will remain in the low to middle 60s across North Florida, middle to upper 60s across Central Florida, and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys. Locally warmer temperatures will be possible along coastlines Monday and Tuesday night.

Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk of Flash Flooding over the next 5 days. High pressure building in over the state behind the recent cold front will keep conditions mostly sunny and dry into next week. For the latest Excessive Rainfall Outlook, please visit the [Weather Prediction Center](#).

River Flood Warnings are in effect for numerous rivers and creeks along the Florida Panhandle and Suwannee Valley as water levels rise following widespread heavy rainfall on Wednesday and Thursday. The [Escambia River near Century](#), [Apalachicola River near Blountstown](#), [Sopchoppy River near Sopchoppy](#), [St. Marks River near Newport on Old Magnolia Rd](#), and the Suwannee River [near Suwannee Springs](#) and [at White Springs](#), are forecast to rise into **minor flood stage**. The [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) continues to experience **minor flooding** and water levels are forecast to reach **moderate flood stage** next week. The [Ochlockonee River near Concord](#) and the [Aucilla River at Lamont](#) are rising near or in **minor flood stage** and are forecast to rise into **moderate flood stage** late this weekend or early next week. Water levels along the Florida Panhandle and Suwannee Valley will continue to rise following run-off from rainfall and rainfall flowing downstream from Alabama and Georgia. This could impact the Chipola ([at Marianna & near Altha](#)), [Ochlockonee River](#), [Withlacoochee](#), [Santa Fe](#), and Suwannee ([at Luraville](#), [at Branford](#), and [at Rock](#)



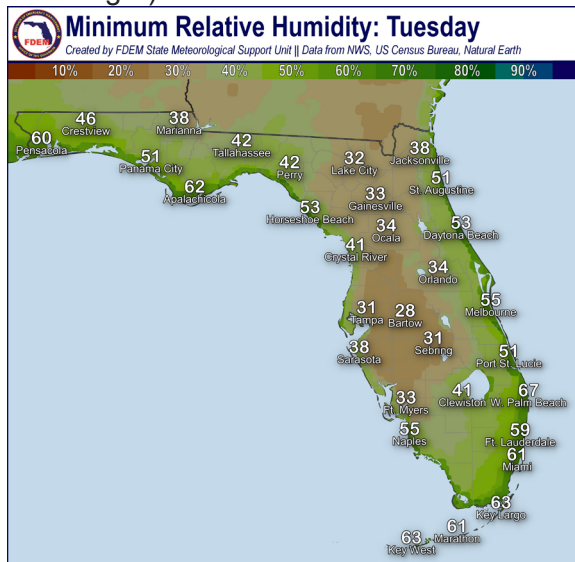
[Bluff near Bell](#)) river basins as well, allowing for water levels to rise into **minor to moderate flood stage** this weekend and next week. Updates to the timing and stages of riverine flooding can be expected in the coming days as water continues to filter through the basins. There are no additional riverine flood concerns at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.98', which is within the operational band and 0.91' above normal. Lake elevations have fallen approximately 0.20' over the past week and approximately 0.85' over the past 30 days. Limited rainfall over the next 5 days will likely allow water levels to continue falling.

Drought & Fire Weather:

After numerous months of long-term drought conditions, the latest [Drought Monitor](#) update shows the removal of all drought conditions along West-Central Florida. Widespread rainfall with passing frontal boundaries over the last few weeks has helped to alleviate and remove drought conditions along West-Central Florida. Meanwhile, abnormally dry (*emerging drought*) conditions have re-emerged along central portions of Escambia and Okaloosa Counties where drier weather has led to rainfall deficits of 1-2" below normal for this time of year. Rainfall observed Wednesday and Thursday was not taken into account for this update but will be used in next week's update.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **145 (-15)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **zero** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).



Sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions are anticipated across much of the state over the next 5 days as drier air moving in with the high pressure airmass brings relative humidity values **near or below critical thresholds (20-35%)**. The Northern and Central Peninsula will likely see **elevated to locally critical wildfire conditions** as relative humidity values drop **below critical thresholds (20-25%)** over areas that have seen relatively dry conditions compared to the rest of the state. While some wildfire control issues are likely, saturated grounds and elevated fuel moisture from widespread heavy rainfall received over the last few days will help to minimize the overall wildfire threat and should preclude **Red Flag Warnings** today. **Red Flag Warnings** cannot be ruled out across North and Central Florida this weekend as fuels dry out and breezy winds linger, creating a **moderate risk for**

significant wildfire potential. Calming winds should preclude Red Flag conditions through the rest of the period; however, trends in wildfire conditions will continue to be monitored. Breezy winds will linger across the state today with **gusts reaching near 15-25 mph** statewide. **Locally stronger wind gusts upwards of 20-25 mph** will be possible along the Northern Peninsula, Southwest Coast, and Keys. Over the weekend winds will continue to gradually weaken; however, wind **gusts near 15-25 mph** will still be possible through the Peninsula Saturday and along Southeast Florida and the Keys Sunday. Winds near 5-10 mph with **higher gusts** are anticipated across the state Monday, increasing to 10-15 mph with **higher gusts** nearly statewide Tuesday as the area of high pressure shifts eastward. According to the [Florida Forest Service fire dashboard](#), there are 22 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 185 acres (as of 2:25 PM EDT).

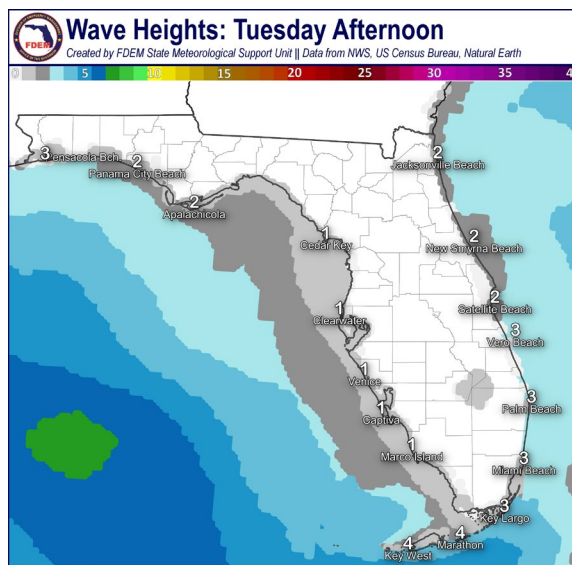
Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected for nearly all beaches statewide today and Saturday as breezy winds and ocean swells linger. A low to **moderate risk** will generally



return statewide Sunday through Tuesday as ocean swells and wave heights continue to subside. A **high risk** will likely be reintroduced to the Florida Panhandle Tuesday. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

While breezy winds linger, **wave heights** will return to 2-4' along the East Coast and 3-5' along the Florida Panhandle this afternoon. **High Surf Advisories** remain in effect along the West Coast until 8 PM EDT this evening as **large breaking waves upwards of 5'** will continue to be possible. **Hazardous beach and boating conditions** persist along the Big Bend and West Coast. As winds continue to settle through the weekend, wave heights will begin to dissipate. 1-4' **wave heights** can be expected to return to the Florida Panhandle, West Coast, Northeast Coast, and Gulf-facing Key beaches Saturday with **3-6' wave heights** persisting elsewhere. Sunday through Tuesday, wave heights will generally return to 1-3' with **locally higher 4' wave heights** lingering along the Southeast Coast and Atlantic-facing Keys Sunday afternoon. Breezy winds will begin to redevelop Tuesday as the area of high pressure over the state shifts eastward, rebuilding ocean swells in the Gulf of Mexico and raising **wave heights** along the Atlantic-facing Key beaches to **3-5'**.



Coastal flooding is not expected over the next 5 days.

Red Tide has not been observed above background levels over the past week. There have been no reports of fish kills or respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide.

Blue-Green Algae, although partially obscured by cloud cover, was observed via satellite on 4/2 at low to **moderate bloom potential** throughout much of Lake Okeechobee, predominantly in the northern half of the lake and along the western and southern shorelines of the lake. Partially obscured satellite imagery of the St. Johns River from 3/30 showed scattered low to **high bloom potential** on Lake George and throughout the mainstem of the river from Lake George downstream to the city of Jacksonville. The most recent usable satellite imagery from 4/1 showed **moderate bloom potential** throughout the upper estuary of the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Satellite imagery from 3/30 showed scattered low to **moderate bloom potential** in the south fork of the St. Lucie River and at the confluence of the south and north forks of the St. Lucie River.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:

[Pensacola](#) • [Panama City](#) • [Tallahassee](#) • [Gainesville](#) • [Jacksonville](#) • [Daytona Beach](#)

[Orlando](#) • [Tampa](#) • [Fort Myers](#) • [West Palm Beach](#) • [Miami](#) • [Key West](#)

[Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service](#)

For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click [here](#).

Have a wonderful weekend!

Melissa James, Assistant State Meteorologist

Florida Division of Emergency Management

www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather

