

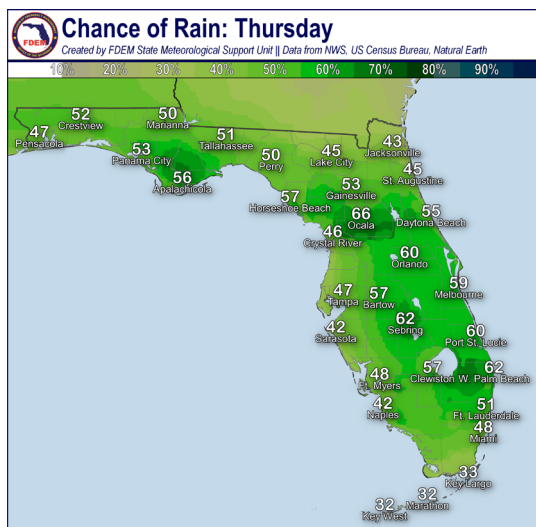
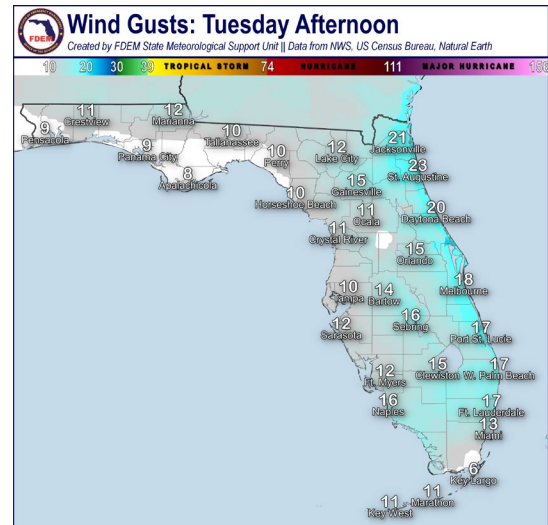


...Distant Hurricane Erin Bringing Breezy Winds Along Florida East Coast Through Midweek...Slightly Drier Air Keeping Shower and Thunderstorm Activity Scattered Tuesday and Wednesday...Approaching Front to Increase Rain Chances Beginning Thursday, But More So Friday and Saturday...Increased Potential for Localized Flash Flooding and Ponding of Water Across North Florida Friday and Saturday As Front Begins to Stall...Triple Digit Heat Index Values Expected Daily; Just Below Heat Advisory Criteria...Life-Threatening and Extremely Dangerous Beach Conditions and Rip Currents Along the Florida East Coast Throughout the Forecast Period Due to Distant Hurricane Erin Remaining Well Offshore...Instances of Minor Coastal Flooding and Beach Erosion Possible Too...

## Tuesday – Thursday:

Onshore winds along the eastern Florida coast are beginning to push isolated showers and embedded thunderstorms onshore and towards the coast, and this will continue throughout the morning hours. Breezy onshore winds will develop throughout the day along the entire Florida East Coast due to distant Hurricane Erin located several hundred miles away. **Wind gusts upwards of 15-20 mph** can be expected by Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, with **locally stronger wind gusts upwards of 25 mph** possible at times. As Erin continues to move northward and then eventually northeastward, breezy winds will let up on Thursday; however, wind gusts of 10-15 mph will continue along the coastline

Some drier air will filter southward into the state, especially along and north of the I-10 corridor. This will keep shower and thunderstorm activity more scattered this afternoon and evening as it develops along the daily sea breeze, especially Tuesday and Wednesday (45-75% chance of rain). Moisture will begin to recover on Thursday, especially across northern Florida, as a weak frontal boundary approaches from the northwest on Friday. **Any thunderstorm** that develops will be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds and torrential downpours. **Instances of nuisance flash flooding and ponding of water** will be possible with any heavy downpours or slow-moving thunderstorms. With increasing moisture along the Panhandle ahead of an approaching frontal boundary, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** on Thursday where locally heavy rainfall within daily showers and thunderstorms could lead to instances of **localized flash flooding and ponding of water**.



**Warm and muggy conditions** can be expected with high temperatures reach the lower to middle 90s. Coastal locations along eastern Florida will see slightly “cooler” temperatures with the help of breezy onshore winds. **Heat index values** will continue to reach **triple digits (100-107-degrees)** in the early to mid-afternoon hours but remain just below Heat Advisory criteria.

Showers and thunderstorms throughout the evening and overnight hours will dissipate and lead to mostly dry conditions. Onshore winds persisting along the eastern Peninsula may allow for brief showers or a thunderstorm or two to begin drifting back onshore during the early morning hours on Wednesday (15-35% chance of rain). Low



temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s.

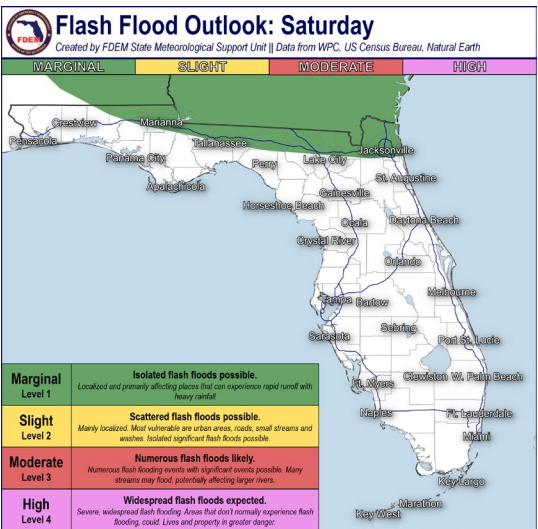
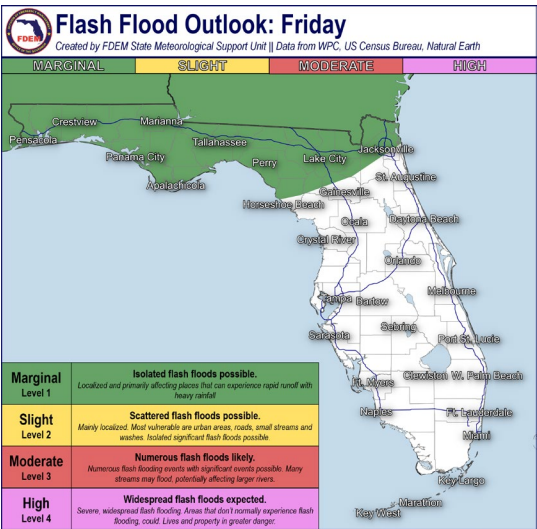
**Friday – Saturday:**

A weak and slow-moving frontal boundary will approach the Panhandle from the northwest bringing increased rain chances across much of North Florida to end the week and head into the weekend (65-85% chance of rain). For the rest of the state, the typical summertime thunderstorm pattern will return with daily showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon and evening hours as Hurricane Erin continues to move further away from the eastern U.S. (50-70% chance of rain). By Saturday, the front becomes nearly stationary over northern Florida and along the I-10 corridor. How far south the front shifts may also shift shower and thunderstorm activity slightly further south into the Peninsula on Saturday. Regardless, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across North Florida on Friday, the along and north of the I-10 corridor on Saturday.

**Localized instances of flash flooding** with repeated downpours will be possible, especially for low-lying/poor drainage areas. There is a chance these outlook areas shift, depending on where the heaviest rainfall could occur as we get closer in time. This will allow for moisture to also return as high pressure begins to re-establish itself over the Florida Peninsula, creating scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms. **Any thunderstorm** that develops, especially within the sea breeze, will be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds and heavy downpours.

As high pressure begins to return and lead to a more typical summertime pattern, high temperatures will remain in the lower to middle 90s across the state. **Muggy conditions** will continue to lead to **triple digit heat index values (100-106-degrees)** nearly statewide, but especially across the Florida Peninsula. A bit more cloud cover and earlier start time to shower and thunderstorm activity with the approaching front may keep Panhandle **heat index values just below triple digits**, depending on the timing. Similar conditions can be expected going into Saturday, with high temperatures in the upper 80s and lower 90s for much of North and Central Florida due to elevated cloud cover.

Shower and thunderstorm activity will follow the sea breeze back towards the coast and coastal waters throughout the late evening and overnight hours, leading to mostly dry conditions overnight. Across the Panhandle, with the proximity of the front, showers and thunderstorms may continue into the overnight hours on Friday or lead to an early start of activity Saturday morning (30-40% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the 70s and lower 80s each night.



**Tropical Weather:**

**Hurricane Erin:** As of 11:00 AM EDT, Erin is located about 655 miles south-southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina and is moving north-northwestward at 10 mph. This motion with an increase in forward speed is expected through tonight, followed by a northward motion on Wednesday and then a northeastward motion on Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Erin will pass to the east of the Bahamas today and tonight, and then move over the western Atlantic between the U.S. East Coast and





Bermuda on Wednesday and Thursday. Maximum sustained winds are near 105 mph with higher gusts, making Erin a category 2 hurricane. Fluctuations in strength are possible over the next few days. *Erin poses no direct threat to Florida but will bring life-threatening rip currents and surf along Florida East Coast beaches over the next few days.*

**Central Tropical Atlantic:** A tropical wave located over the central tropical Atlantic continues to produce a broad area of disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions appear conducive for gradual development of this system. A tropical depression could form toward the end of this week or weekend. This system should move westward to west-northwestward at about 20 mph and approach the vicinity of the Leeward Islands on Friday. *This system poses no threat to Florida at this time but continues to be monitored.*

\*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low... 10%.**

\*Formation chance through 7 days...**medium...60%.**

**Eastern Tropical Atlantic (Invest 99L):** A tropical wave located a couple hundred miles to the south of the Cabo Verde Islands continues to produce disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions appear marginally favorable for additional development over the next couple of days as the system moves westward at around 15 mph. Towards the end of this week, this system could encounter a less favorable environment, limiting its development chances after that time. *This system poses no threat to Florida at this time.*

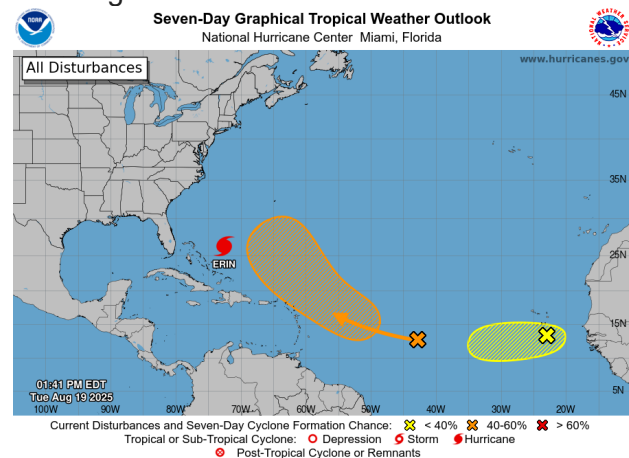
\*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low...**

**30%.**

\*Formation chance through 7 days...**low...**

**30%.**

Please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) [website](http://www.hurricanes.gov) for the latest on the tropics.



## Hydrology & Flooding:

With increasing moisture along the Panhandle ahead of an approaching frontal boundary, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** on Thursday where locally heavy rainfall within daily showers and thunderstorms could lead to instances of **localized flash flooding and ponding of water**. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across North Florida on Friday, the along and north of the I-10 corridor on Saturday. **Localized instances of flash flooding** with repeated downpours will be possible, especially for low-lying/poor drainage areas. Daily showers and thunderstorms will be capable of producing locally heavy downpours and intense rainfall rates that could lead to instances of localized flash flooding. Rainfall totals through the end of the week will likely reach 1-3" with locally higher totals upwards of 4-5" possible. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](http://www.weather.gov).

The [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#) remains at Action Stage (bank-full) near Lake Okeechobee; however, these water levels continue to slowly decline. Rivers throughout the state remain generally in good condition, but any repeated heavier downpours could bring localized water level rises. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#) is hovering within Action Stage (bank-full) due to recent localized heavy rainfall and will hover there for the next few days. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.20 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.83 feet below normal for this time of year.

## Drought & Fire Weather:



**Extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** was finally removed from Miami-Dade County and the eastern Everglades this past week on the Drought Monitor (8/19) with the help of some heavy rainfall. Heavy rainfall of 2-4" were observed across eastern Miami-Dade County, with localized heavier pockets of 4-6" for southernmost portions of the county. A new area of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** was introduced along inland West-Central Florida along the US-17 corridor where the heaviest rainfall missed along the western Peninsula. Surrounding areas saw rainfall of 2-5", while this portion of the region only saw about 0.5-1". The Abnormally Dry (emerging drought) conditions were reduced along the I-10 corridor and the northernmost Panhandle with the help of some frontal-driven rainfall that help to deescalate conditions from the week before with the warm temperatures. Coastal Palm Beach county continues to see the only area of extreme drought as the area continues to see one of its driest year on record, especially along the coast, with rainfall departures **greater than 8" below normal for the year**. Abnormally dry conditions continues to persist along much of the western Peninsula with a more Gulf-dominating sea breeze season keeping shower and thunderstorm activity to the east. Immediate coastal areas of Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin Counties have continued to miss out on daily thunderstorm activity as the sea breeze pushes further inland, and Abnormally Dry conditions persist.

[The Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **288** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are no Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

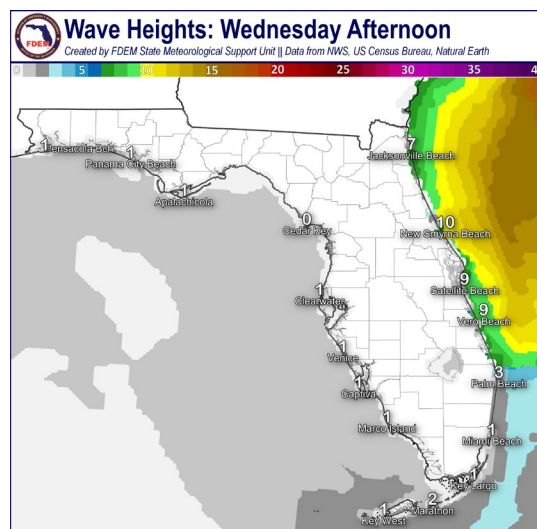
Daily rain chances will lead to an overall low risk for wildfires across the state. Daily thunderstorms will be capable of frequent lightning and erratic winds that may ignite or lead to the spreading of existing wildfires, especially over ongoing drought conditions. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 18 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 613 acres.

### Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Distant Hurricane Erin well offshore from the Florida East Coast will bring **dangerous and life-threatening rip currents** throughout the rest of the week. Breezy onshore winds and powerful ocean swells along the coast will lead to a **high risk for rip currents** through Friday, at least, and mostly likely Saturday. Panhandle beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** due to westerly to southwesterly winds pushing up against the coast throughout the forecast period. **Locally high risks** cannot be ruled out at times. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Dangerous and life-threatening surf** will develop along the Florida East Coast beginning today and continue through Thursday, at least, due to distant Hurricane Erin. **Wave heights** of Tuesday will grow to **reach 4-7'** Tuesday afternoon, then peak Wednesday with **wave heights of 9-11'**. Locally **larger waves upwards of 10-12'** cannot be ruled out late Wednesday afternoon and evening for portions of the East-Central Florida coast. **High Surf Advisories** have been posted for numerous First and Space Coast beaches beginning today until late Thursday evening or even early Friday. As Erin remains well offshore and travels adjacent to the U.S. East Coast through the rest of the week, ocean swells will linger through Thursday along Northeast Florida beaches allowing for **wave heights to reach 5-9'**. **Elevated surf near 4-7'** will linger along the East Coast through the end of the week and into the weekend in the wake of distant Hurricane Erin. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect wave heights of 1-2' to persist throughout the week and weekend.

Pounding waves and onshore winds on top of elevated astronomical tides along portions of the Northeast and East-Central Florida coastlines that could lead to **minor coastal flooding and beach erosion** near and during times of high tide. **Coastal Flood Advisories** could be posted as soon as



Tuesday night or Wednesday if possible **minor coastal flooding**. Tidal portions of the St. Johns River could also experience **minor coastal flooding** with elevated wave heights and onshore winds slowing down the discharge of the river. Vulnerable beaches along the northern East Coast may be more susceptible to beach and coastal erosion with wave action over the next few days.

The latest **Blue-Green Algae** report shows algal bloom conditions were observed at 13 sites out of the 23 site visits conducted from 8/8 to 8/14. Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows low to **high bloom potential** on approximately 85% of the lake with the highest potential in the northwest shores of the lake. **Moderate bloom potential** was observed throughout most of Lake George. **Moderate bloom potential** is visible on the mainstem of the St. Johns River from Lake George downstream to Palatka and on Doctors Lake. Satellite imagery also has detected scattered low bloom potential on the mainstem of the St. Johns River from Palatka to just north of Doctors Lake. Scattered low to **moderate bloom potential** was observed along visible portions of the Caloosahatchee Estuary. No significant bloom potential has been observed on visible portions of the St. Lucie Estuary.

[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](#)

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

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[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 rest of the week!

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist  
Florida Division of Emergency Management  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather)

