

Snow & Blowing Snow Thursday; Turning Much Colder



Snow & Blowing Snow Developing Thursday

Turning Much Colder Thursday Evening

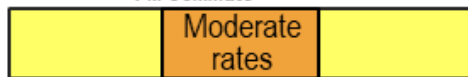


Snow

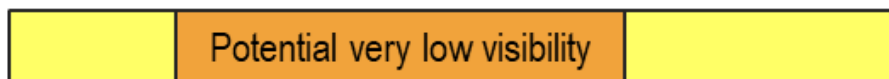
Along/North of I-80



PM Commute



AM Commute



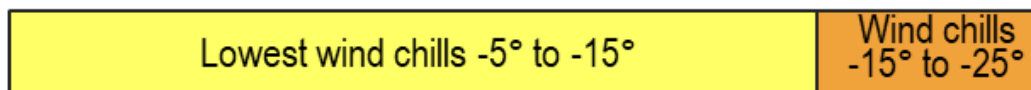
Possible dangerous travel conditions north central IL

Blowing Snow

Light Icing

Up to 0.10"

Cold



Message of the Day:

- Accumulating snow expected to move in late Thursday morning into the afternoon; may briefly start as a mix
- Snow will pick up in intensity through mid-even with accums of 3-5", especially north central IL and the northern Chicago suburbs
- Blowing snow likely Thursday night into Friday significantly reducing visibility in open places & making for hazardous travel
- Very cold expected Friday into Monday; wind chills below zero

Important Forecast Changes

Winter Storm Watch issued for Boone, Lee, Ogle, and Winnebago Counties for Thursday mid-late afternoon through Friday morning

NEW

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Key Points



Hazards: Wintry precip. develops Thursday with accumulating snow and blowing snow Thu PM-night, along with possible hazardous, icy roads; Dangerous cold & additional snow possible over the weekend-early next week.



Areas Impacted: Area wide, with impactful accumulating snow and blowing snow Thu PM-Fri AM favored especially north of I-80 in northern Illinois.



Timing & Duration:

Snow: Start Mid Thu AM (possibly mixed w/freezing rain), heavier Thu PM

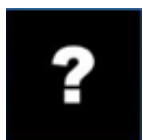
Blowing snow: Late day Thursday through Friday morning

Icy Roads (Flash Freeze Potential): Thursday evening into Fri. AM

Dangerous Cold: Friday through Monday; especially Sat. night into Mon.



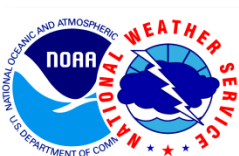
Impacts: Hazardous road conditions with the snow and blowing snow, and roads becoming icy. Increased risk of cold related health hazards and increased risk of freeze-up ice jams on rivers during the upcoming cold snap.



Certainty & Considerations: Increasingly high confidence in a few to several inches of snow I-80 and north, but lower confidence on timing any freezing rain and exact timing of any start as rain or mix to all snow. High confidence in some travel impacts into Friday morning, lower though in magnitude of impacts and how much of area affected



Historical Perspective: The upcoming cold weather will be the coldest since late January 2019, but unlikely to be that extreme.



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Winter Weather Impacts Thursday into Early Friday



Hazardous Travel Likely



Snow & blowing snow

Much colder Thu. night leading to icy roads



Area-wide, especially along/north of I-80



Gusts to 40+ mph Thu. night with blowing snow; very low visibility potential

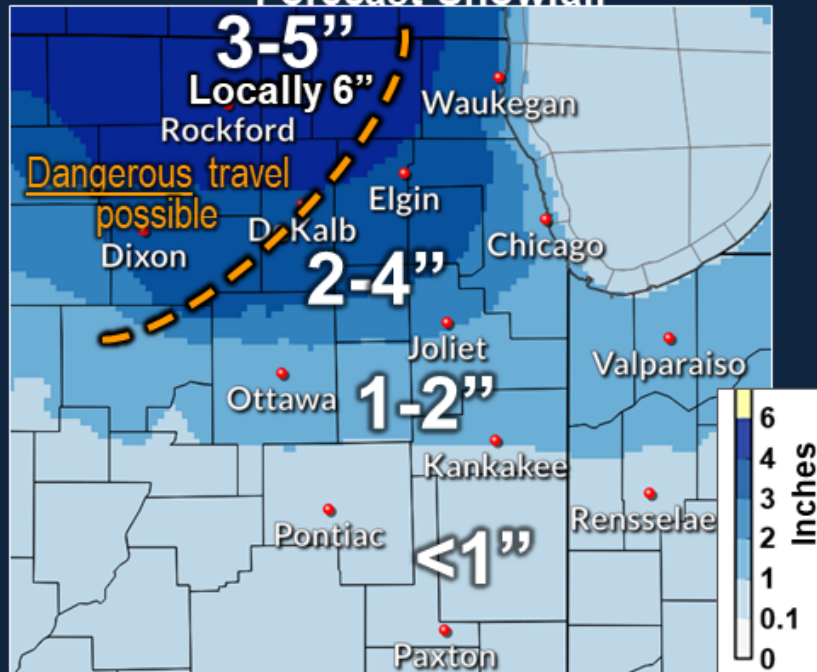


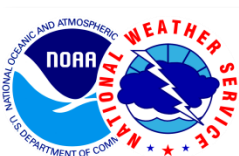
Accum. snow Thu. P.M.; blowing snow Thu. late day through Fri A.M.

ACTIONS

- ✓ Prepare for possible hazardous travel.
- ✓ Bring an emergency kit if you need to drive.

Forecast Snowfall





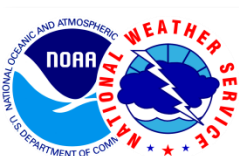
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NWS Headlines for this Afternoon - Early Wednesday Morning



NWS Headline Definitions

- Winter Storm Watch issued for north central and northwest Illinois for the combination of accumulating snow and potential significant blowing snow Thursday mid-late afternoon into Thursday evening, and then blowing snow continuing into Friday morning.
- Winter Weather Advisory likely for at least a part if not much of the area



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Outdoor Health Facility-Specific Information

What:



Wind gusts to 30-40 mph



Wind Chills $< -10^{\circ}\text{F}$



Where: Area-wide



When: Wind gusts Thursday night into Friday morning
Wind chills near -10°F Friday morning & $\leq 10^{\circ}\text{F}$ Saturday morning & Saturday night-Monday morning

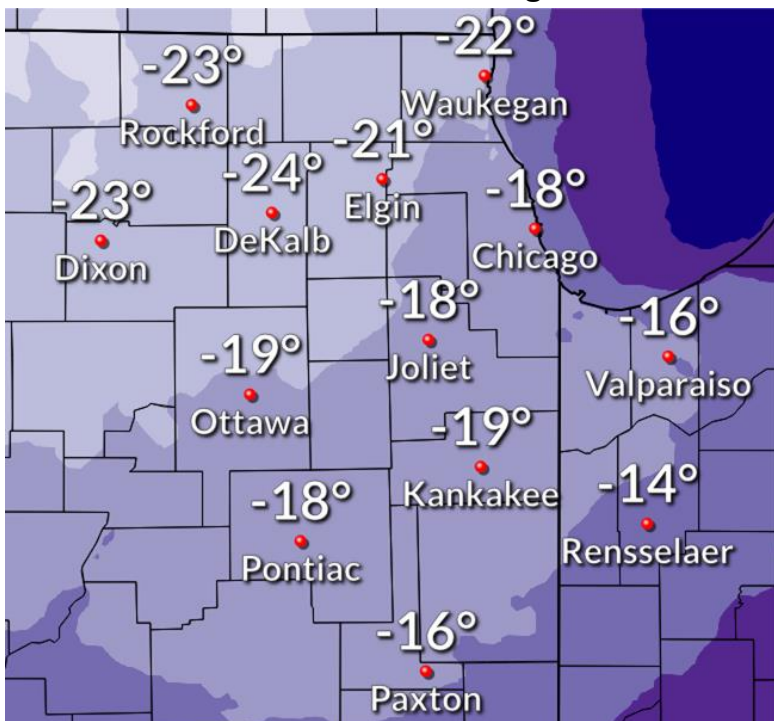


Confidence: High

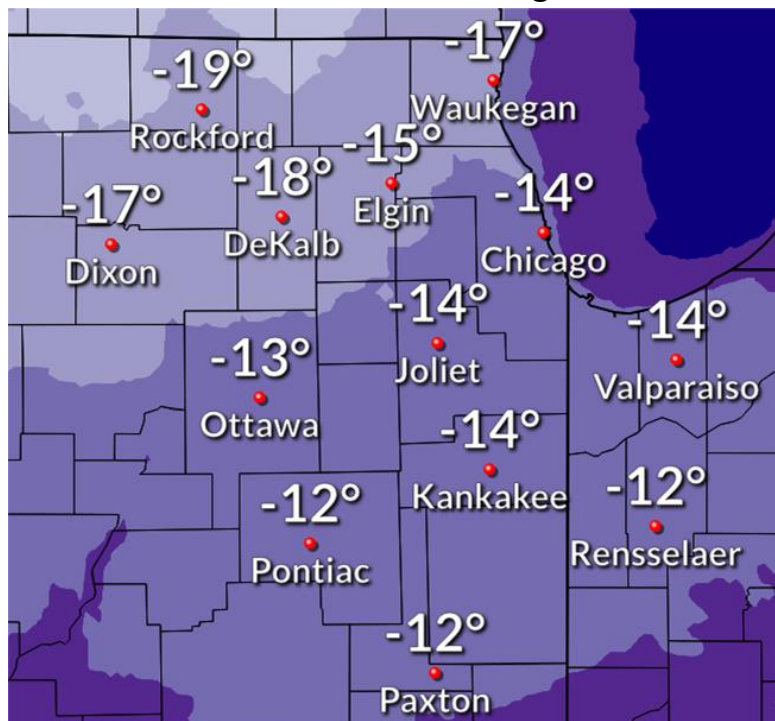
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Key Points

Minimum Wind Chill Sat. Night-Sun. AM

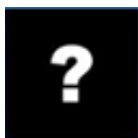


Minimum Wind Chill Sun. Night-Mon. AM

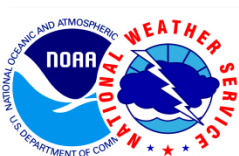


Forecast Lows: -10° to +2°

Locally colder possible in outlying areas



Certainty & Considerations: Confidence in sub-zero lows and wind chills is high. However, confidence in the exact temperature and lowest wind chills forecast is only low-medium. Multiple fast moving disturbances from Saturday PM through Monday could bring rounds of fluffy snow and least cloud cover if some areas miss the snow. This lowers confidence in how low the air temperatures and minimum wind chills will get. It's possible the coldest temperatures and wind chills get delayed due to the possible active pattern.



Other Resources

- [Winter Weather Safety & Preparedness](#) – safety graphics and messaging
- [Latest on this Event](#) – forecast and observations graphics and links for this winter event
- [Weather Watcher Webpage](#) – ideal for someone in charge of monitoring the weather ahead of and during an event
- [Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook](#) – helps to determine which days you need to be mindful of hazardous weather
- [NWS Headline Definitions](#)

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