

COMMONWEALTH SEVERE WEATHER REPORT

Weather Event: Flooding

Report Date: February 22, 2018 Period Date: February 22-24, 2018

WEATHER WARNING

Widespread rain this morning will become scattered this afternoon. Additional waves of rain can be expected tonight through Sunday morning. Strong storms and particularly heavy rain are in the forecast for Saturday night. Flooding will become more widespread as the week goes on, especially moving into the weekend.

Severe Weather Overview

Severe Weather Risk Saturday

Thunderstorms are forecast with the passage of a cold front Saturday afternoon into Saturday night.

- Some of the storms may become severe late Saturday afternoon & evening.
- Main concerns are damaging winds & flooding rains, with a smaller risk for isolated tornadoes.

Threat Scale: Low High

Winds
Large Hail
Tornadoes
Flooding

Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, February 24, 2018

National Weather Service Paducah, Kentucky

Published on: 02/22/2018 at 6:09AM

NWS Paducah

Flood Watch through Saturday Night

A very wet pattern will continue through Saturday night.

Moderate to heavy rain will accompany multiple rounds of showers & thunderstorms.

Additional rainfall of 2 to 4 inches is forecast, with a total event rainfall of 4 to 7 inches.

Flooding will develop on creeks and streams that feed into already swollen rivers.

Standing water will make some roads impassable.

Additional Rainfall through Saturday Afternoon

National Weather Service Paducah, Kentucky

Published on: 02/22/2018 at 5:12AM

NWS Louisville

Forecast Rainfall Through Sunday

Rainfall and River Flooding

- Multiple rounds of moderate to heavy rain are expected through the weekend.
- Minor to Moderate flooding is likely along many rivers and creeks in Kentucky and southern Indiana.
- For the latest river stages and forecasts go to: <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=LMK>

Flood Watch in dark green

River Flood Warnings in bright green

OHIO RIVER AT MCALPINE UPPER

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

weather.gov/louisville

Published on: 02/22/2018 at 3:58AM

NWS Jackson

East Kentucky Five Day Outlook

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Cloudy with rain	Cloudy with rain	Cloudy with rain	Cloudy with rain	Sunny
50-56 North 63-72 South	47-52 North 55-61 South 73-79	53-59 67-73	53-59 62-67	37-42 55-62

National Weather Service Jackson, KY

Published on: 02/22/2018 at 4:36AM

Weather Safety		
Before a Flash Flood Event	During a Flash Flood Event	After a Flash Flood Event
<p>Sometimes floods develop slowly and forecasters can anticipate where a flood will happen days or weeks before it occurs. Oftentimes flash floods can occur within minutes and sometimes without any sign of rain. Being prepared can save your life and give you peace of mind.</p> <p><u>Create a Communications Plan</u> It is important to be able to communicate with your family and friends in the event of a disaster. Whether it is having a specific person identified to contact for status updates or a safe location to meet up with family members, having a plan in place will give you peace of mind if disaster does strike.</p> <p><u>Assemble an Emergency Kit</u> It is good practice to have enough food, water, and medicine on hand at all times to last you at least 3 days in the case of an emergency. Water service may be interrupted or unsafe to drink and food requiring little cooking and no refrigeration may be needed if electric power is interrupted. You should also have batteries, blankets, flashlights, first aid kit, rubber boots, rubber gloves, and a NOAA Weather Radio or other battery operated radio easily available.</p> <p><u>Know Your Risk</u> Is your home, business, or school in a floodplain? Where is water likely to collect on the roadways you most often travel? What is the fastest way to get to higher ground? Knowing the answers to these questions ahead of time can save your life.</p> <p><u>Sign Up for Notifications</u> The Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service provides RSS feeds for observed forecast and alert river conditions to help keep the public informed about local water conditions.</p>	<p>During a flood, water levels and the rate the water is flowing can quickly change. Remain aware and monitor local radio and television outlets. Avoid floodwaters at all costs and evacuate immediately when water starts to rise. Do not wait until it is too late!</p> <p><u>Stay Informed</u> Monitor local radio and television (including NOAA Weather Radio), internet and social media for information and updates.</p> <p><u>Get to Higher Ground</u> Get out of areas subject to flooding and get to higher ground immediately.</p> <p><u>Obey Evacuation Orders</u> If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Be sure to lock your home as you leave. If you have time, disconnect utilities and appliances.</p> <p><u>Practice Electrical Safety</u> Do not go into a basement, or any room, if water covers the electrical outlets or if cords are submerged. If you see sparks or hear buzzing, crackling, snapping or popping noises --get out! Stay out of water that may have electricity in it!</p> <p><u>Avoid Flood waters</u> Do not walk through floodwaters. It only takes six inches of moving water to knock you off your feet. If you are trapped by moving water, move to the highest possible point and call 911 for help.</p> <p>Do not drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade; Turn Around, Don't Drown! Water may be deeper than it appears and can hide many hazards (i.e. sharp objects, washed out road surfaces, electrical wires, chemicals, etc). A vehicle caught in swiftly moving water can be swept away in a matter of seconds. Twelve inches of water can float a car or small SUV and 18 inches of water can carry away large vehicles.</p>	<p>When floodwaters recede, the damage left behind can be devastating and present many dangers. Images of flood destruction depict destroyed homes and buildings, damaged possessions, and decimated roadways. However, what you cannot see can be just as dangerous. Floodwaters often become contaminated with sewage or chemicals. Gas leaks and live power lines can be deadly, but are not obvious at first glance.</p> <p><u>Stay Informed</u> Stay tuned to your local news for updated information on road conditions. Ensure water is safe to drink, cook, or clean with after a flood. Oftentimes a boil water order is put in place following a flood. Check with utility companies to find out when electricity or gas services may be restored. Carbon monoxide poisoning is one of the leading causes of death after storms when areas are dealing with power outages. Never use a portable generator inside your home or garage.</p> <p><u>Avoid Flood Waters</u> Standing water hides many dangers including toxins and chemicals. There may be debris under the water and the road surface may have been compromised.</p> <p>If it is likely your home will flood, do not wait to be ordered to leave; evacuate yourself! Make alternative plans for a place to stay. If you have pets, take them with you or arrange to board them at a facility well away from the flooding danger.</p> <p><u>Avoid Disaster Areas</u> Do not visit disaster areas! Your presence may hamper rescue and other emergency operations.</p> <p><u>Heed Road Closed and Cautionary Signs</u> Road closure and other cautionary signs are put in place for your safety. Pay attention to them!</p> <p><u>Wait for the "All Clear"</u> Do not enter a flood damaged home or building until you are given the all clear by authorities. If you choose to enter a flood-damaged building, be extremely careful. Water can compromise the structural integrity and its foundation. Make sure the electrical system has been turned off; otherwise contact the power company or a qualified electrician. Contact your insurance agent as soon as possible to discuss the damage done to your property. If you have a home generator, be sure to follow proper safety procedures for use. You can find generator safety information at: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/co/generator.shtm</p> <p><u>Contact Your Family and Loved Ones</u> Let your family and close friends know that you are okay so they can help spread the word. Register with or search the American Red Cross's <i>Safe and Well</i> listings.</p>

Personnel Cabinet Message Adverse Weather Policy

It is the policy of state government that state offices remain open during inclement weather. Only the Governor has the authority to close a state office or send employees home early. Employees are, nevertheless, eligible to use Adverse Weather Leave to take time off in inclement weather, and may, in consultation with their supervisors, make up missed time within 123 days of the absence.

The regulations pertaining to Adverse Weather Leave are set forth at 101 KAR 2:102, Section 11, and 101 KAR 3:015, Section 11. These regulations describe how to handle situations in which employees come to work late, leave work early, or do not come to work at all because of adverse weather. The regulations provide as follows:

Absences Due to Adverse Weather:

- (1) An employee, who is not designated for mandatory operations and chooses not to report to work or chooses to leave early in the event of adverse weather conditions such as tornado, flood, blizzard or ice storm, shall have the time of absence reported as:
 - a. Charged to annual or compensatory leave;
 - b. Taken as leave without pay, if annual and compensatory leave have been exhausted; or
 - c. Deferred in accordance with subsections (3) and (4) of this section.
- (2) An employee who is on prearranged annual, compensatory, or sick leave shall charge leave as originally requested.
- (3) If operational needs allow, except for an employee in mandatory operations, management shall make every reasonable effort to arrange schedules whereby an employee shall be given an opportunity to make up time not worked rather than charging it to leave.
- (4) An employee shall not make up work if the work would result in the employee working more than forty (40) hours in a workweek.
 - a. Time lost shall be made up within four (4) months of the occurrence of the absence. If it is not made up within four (4) months, compensatory leave shall be deducted to cover the absence, or annual leave shall be deducted if compensatory leave is insufficient or not available. Leave without pay shall be charged if no annual or compensatory leave is available.
 - b. If an employee transfers or separates from employment before the leave is made up, the leave shall be charged to annual or compensatory leave or deducted from the final paycheck.
- (5) If catastrophic, life-threatening weather conditions occur, as created by a tornado, flood, ice storm, or blizzard, and it becomes necessary for authorities to order evacuation or shutdown of the place of employment, the following provisions shall apply:
 - a. An employee who is required to evacuate or who would report to a location that has been shut down shall not be required to make up the time that is lost from work during the period officially declared hazardous to life and safety.
 - b. An employee who is required to work in an emergency situation shall be compensated pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of this administrative regulation and the Fair Labor Standards Act as amended.

Questions concerning this matter should be directed to Mary Elizabeth Bailey, Commissioner, Department of Human Resources Administration at (502) 564-7571.