



# Wintry Weather Returns Thursday

April 1, 2026  
3:48 AM EDT

Wintry mix, including freezing rain, expected very late tonight into Thursday

## Key Messages

- A wintry mix, including freezing rain, is expected to arrive from southwest to northeast across northern Michigan very late tonight into Thursday morning.
- Wintry weather is favored to turn to all rain as temperatures warm through the day Thursday into Thursday evening.
  - ◆ **Temperatures warming above freezing likely to limit duration of any icing impact.**
- **Medium chances (40-70%) for at least 0.10" of ice** for parts of northern and eastern upper Michigan.
  - ◆ **Localized low chances (10-40%) for 0.25" of ice.**
- **Strong to severe thunderstorms are possible Thursday night.**

## Important Updates

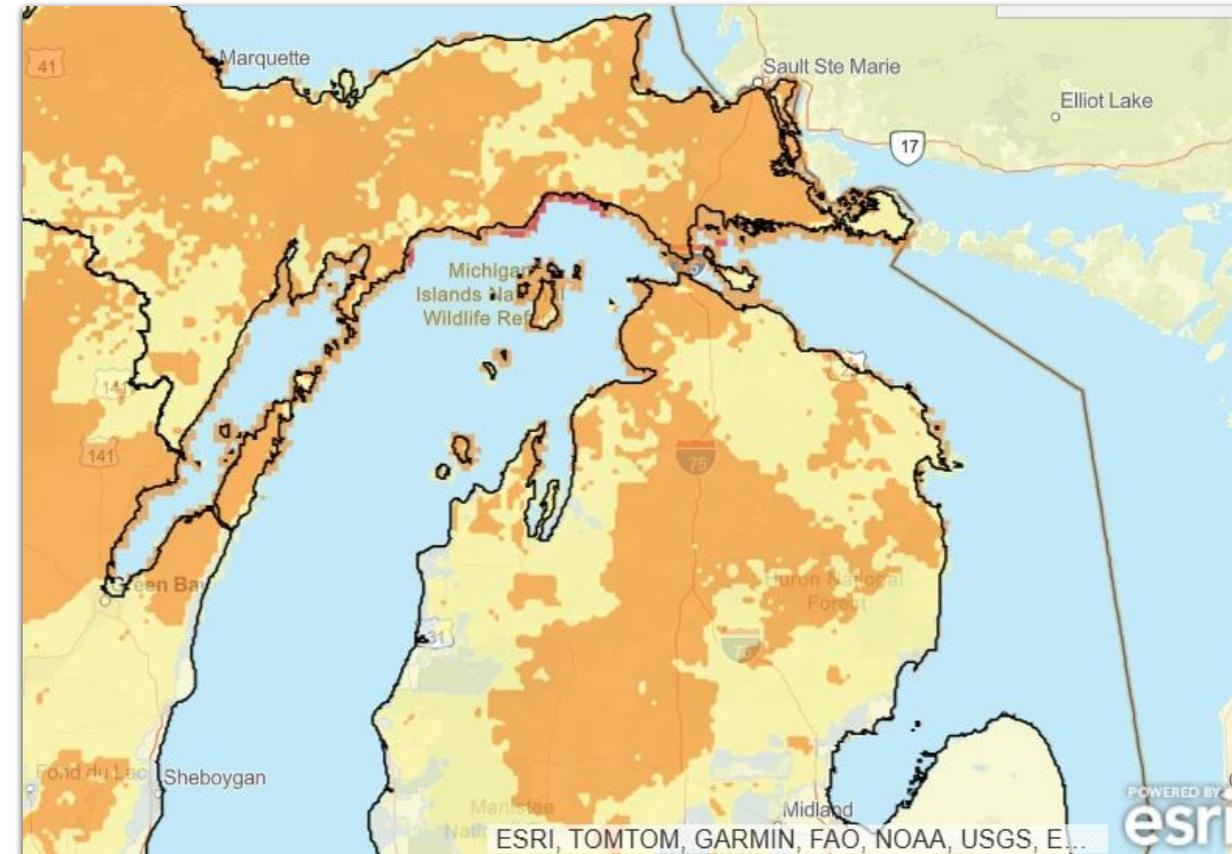
- 1 Increased risk of severe thunderstorms Thursday night. Less snow/sleet eastern UP. Other minor updates.

## Next Scheduled Briefing

- Late this afternoon.

## Winter Storm Severity Index

Thursday



<b>Winter Weather Area</b> Expect winter weather. • Winter driving conditions. <b>Drive carefully.</b>	<b>Minor Impacts</b> Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. • Winter driving conditions. <b>Use Caution while driving.</b>	<b>Moderate Impacts</b> Expect disruptions to daily life. • Hazardous driving conditions. <b>Use extra caution while driving.</b> • Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	<b>Major Impacts</b> Expect considerable disruptions to daily life. Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. <b>Avoid travel if possible.</b> Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	<b>Extreme Impacts</b> Expect substantial disruptions to daily life. Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. <b>Travel is not advised.</b> Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur. Life-saving actions may be needed.
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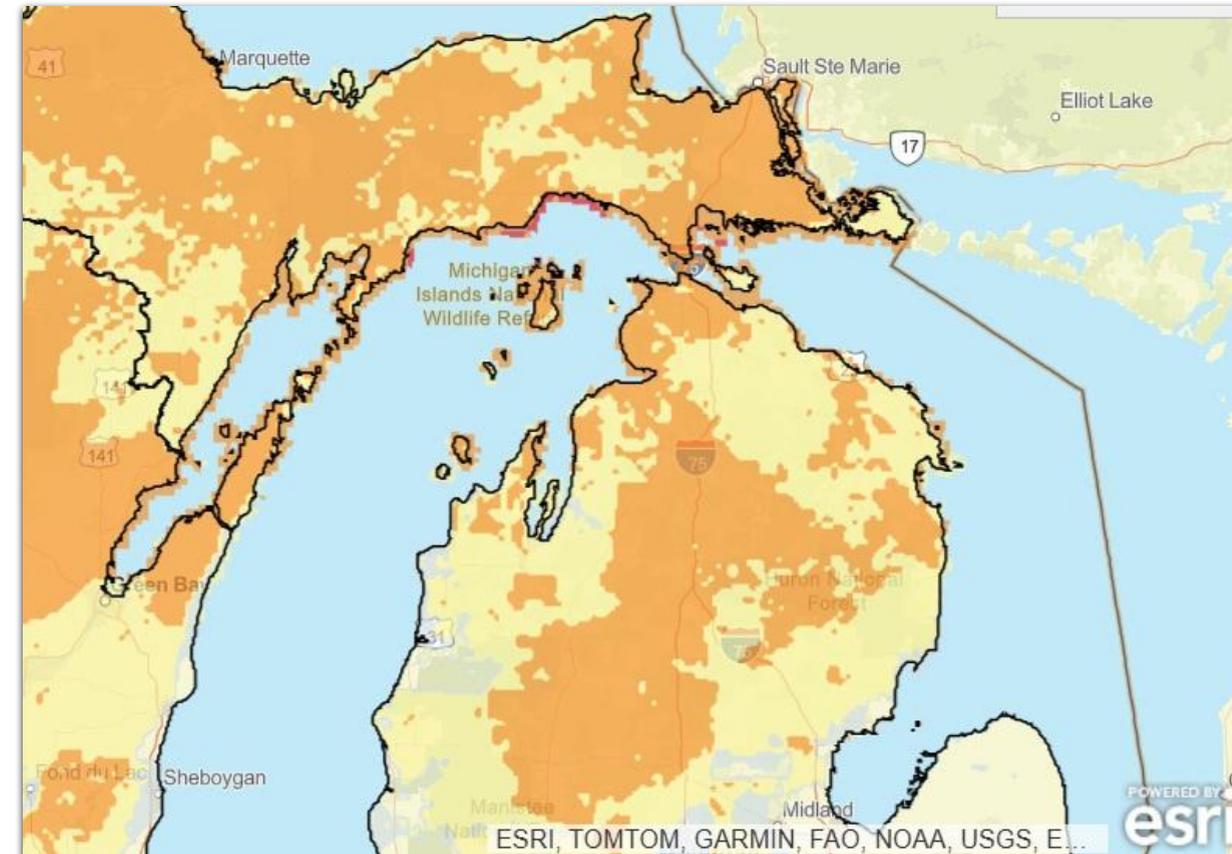


## Hazards:

- **Freezing rain/icing**
  - Following probabilities are for **ice** across northern lower and eastern upper Michigan pre-dawn Thursday through mid to late Thursday afternoon.
    - Medium chances (40-70%) for at least 0.10"
    - Localized low chances (10-40%) for at least 0.25"
- **Accumulating snow/sleet**
  - Highest probabilities for up to two inches of wet snow/sleet are in northern parts of the eastern U.P.

## Winter Storm Severity Index

Thursday



## Timing & Duration:



- Latest trends favor wintry precipitation **arriving from southwest to northeast pre-dawn Thursday morning, continuing most widespread Thursday morning** before temperatures warm above freezing from south to north in the afternoon.

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Medium confidence in forecast snow and ice amounts.

## Overall Forecast Confidence

Amounts and Location



Low

Medium

High

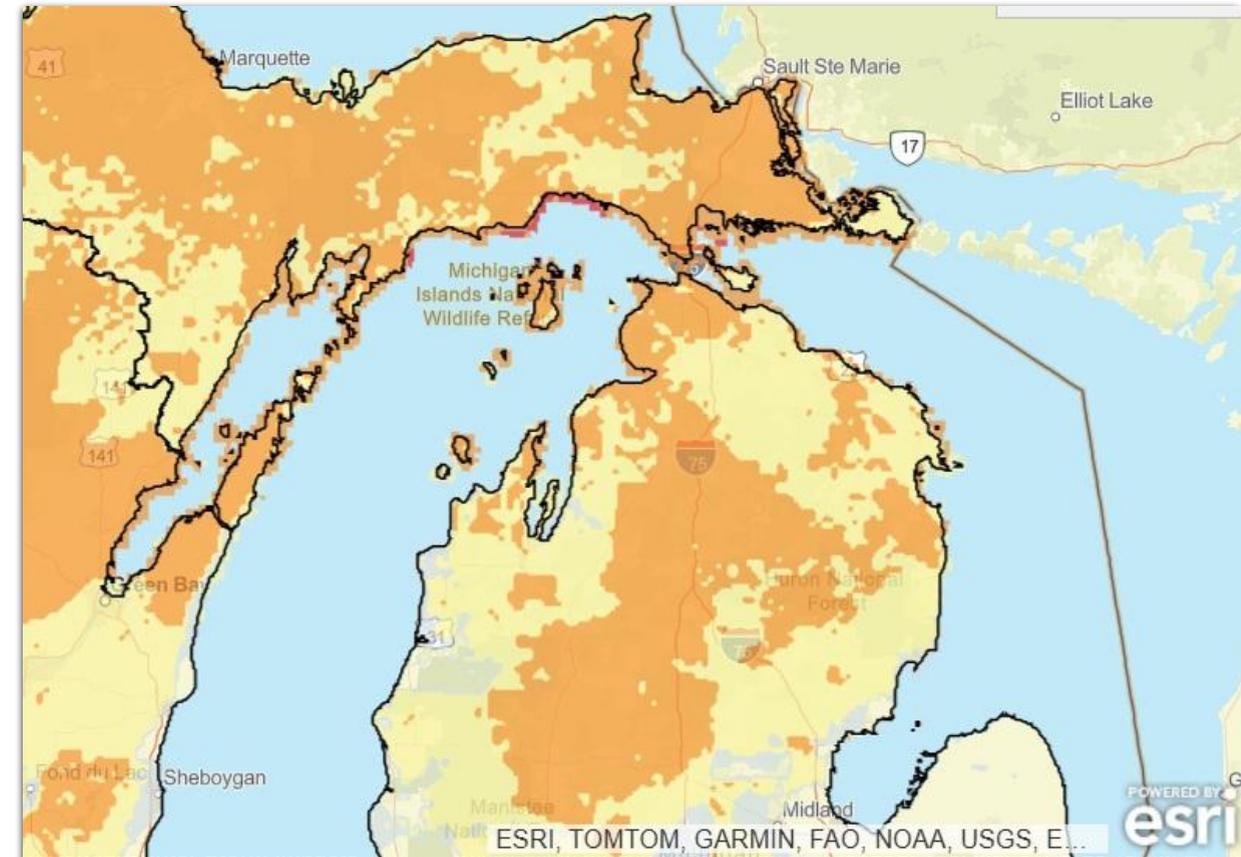
## What Could Still Change?

Shift in the storm track would result in change to location and amount of heaviest snow/sleet and ice.

- Shift farther northwest: Would result in less icing/more plain rain.
- Shift farther southeast: Would result in more snow/sleet across the eastern U.P. and potentially tip of the mitt and likely a swath of potentially higher icing.

## Winter Storm Severity Index

Thursday



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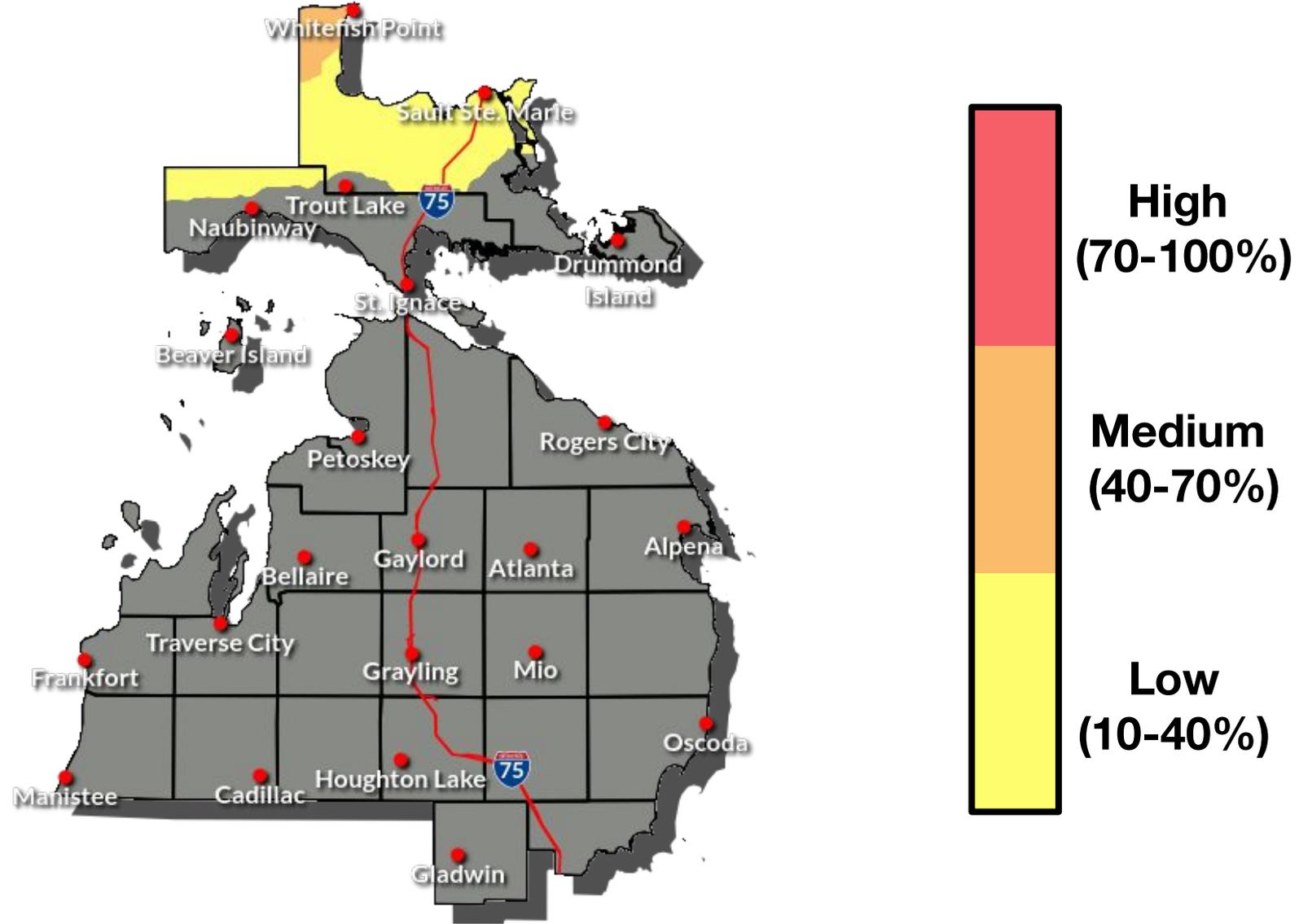


# Potential Snow Thursday

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Small to locally medium chances for part of the eastern U.P. for at least 2" snow and sleet

## Chances for AT LEAST 2" Snow/Sleet: Thursday - Thursday Evening





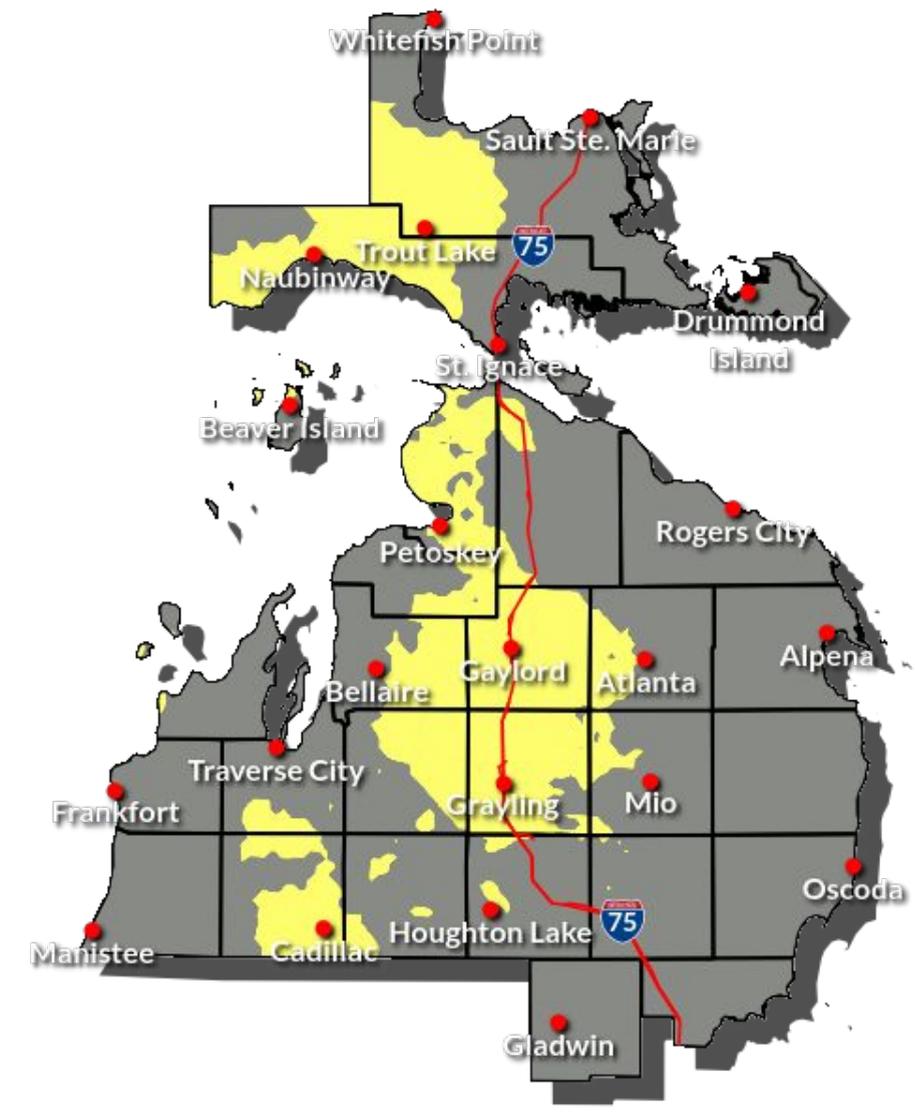
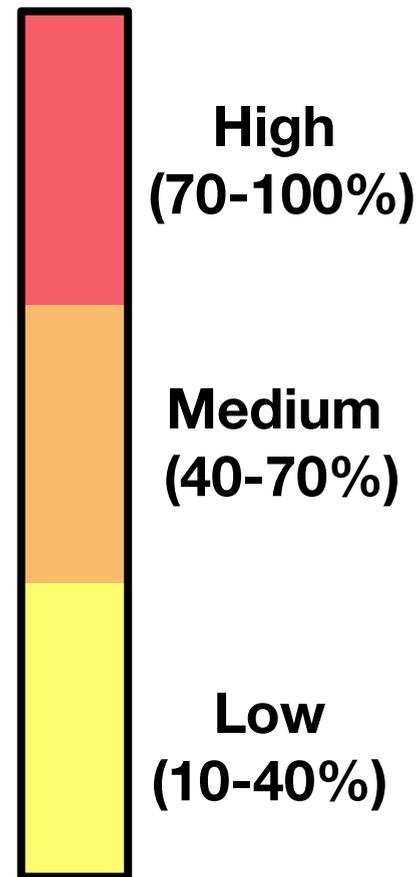
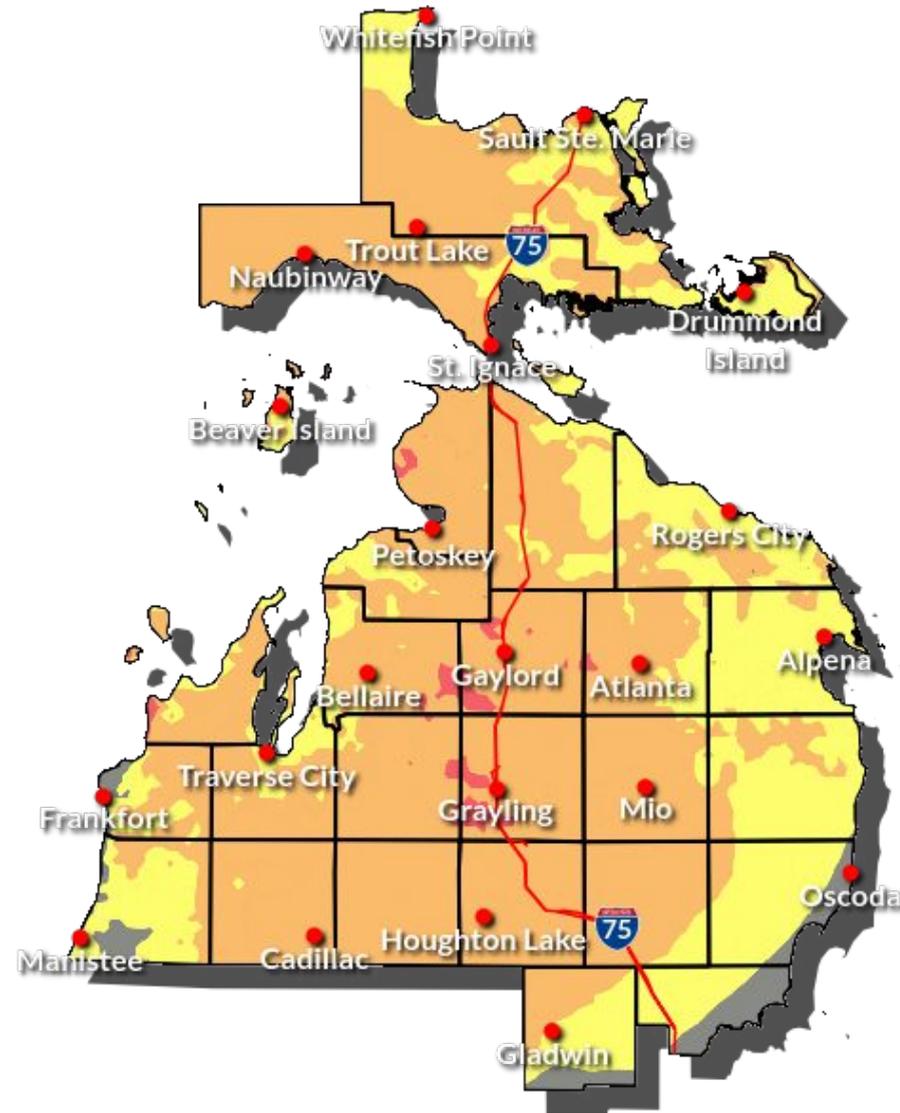
# Potential Ice Thursday

April 1, 2026  
3:48 AM EDT

Medium to locally high chances exist across much of northern MI for at least 0.10" ice

## Chances for 0.10"+ of Ice: Thursday - Thursday Evening

## Chances for 0.25"+ of Ice: Thursday - Thursday Evening





# Precipitation Type Timeline

April 1, 2026  
3:48 AM EDT

Latest trends on precipitation type evolution through the day Thursday

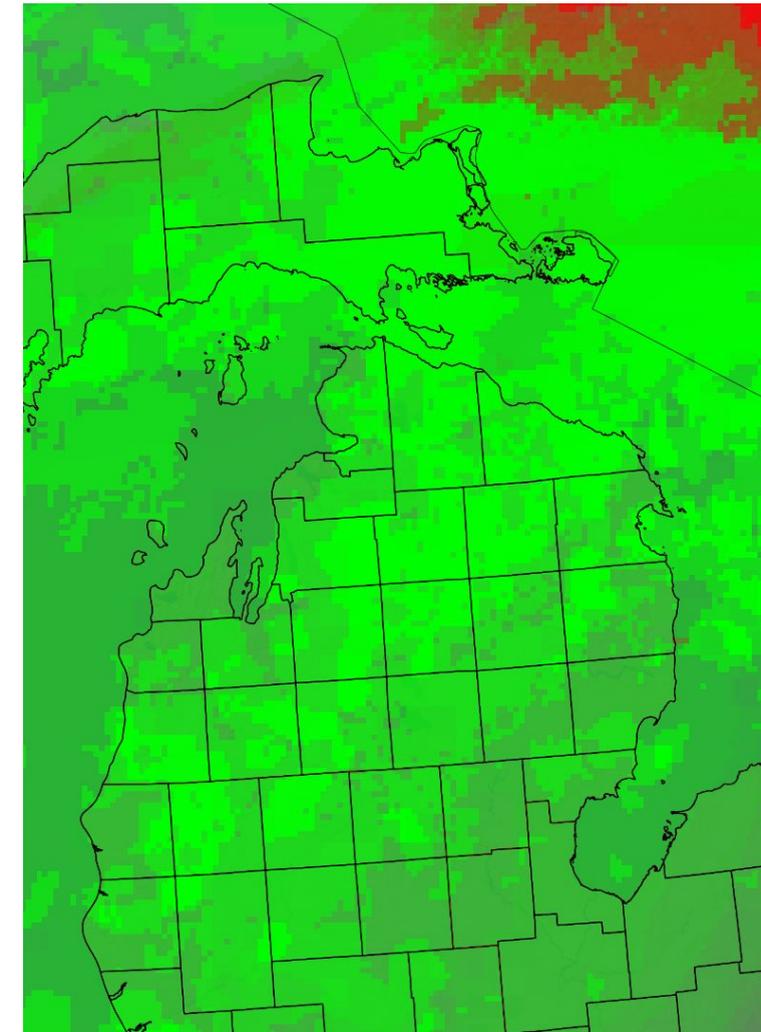
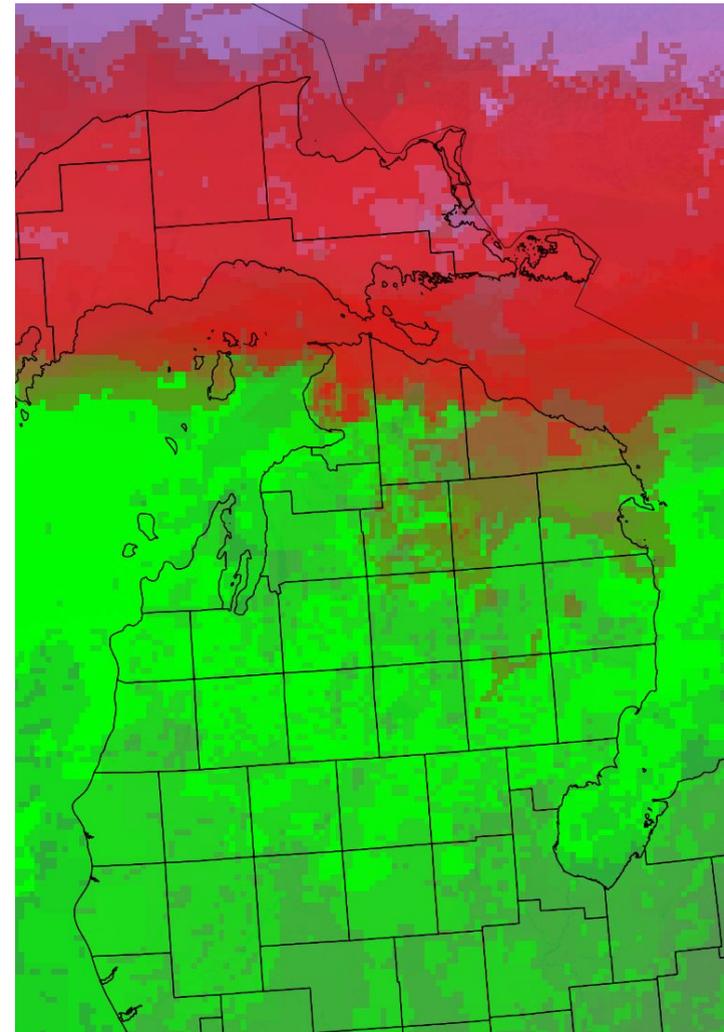
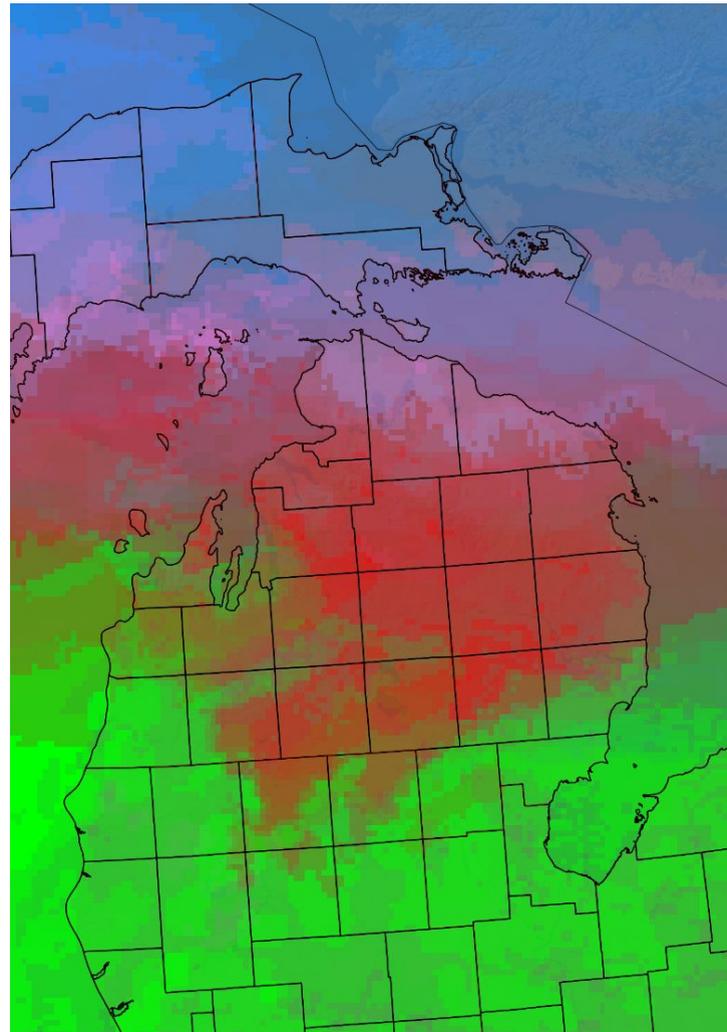
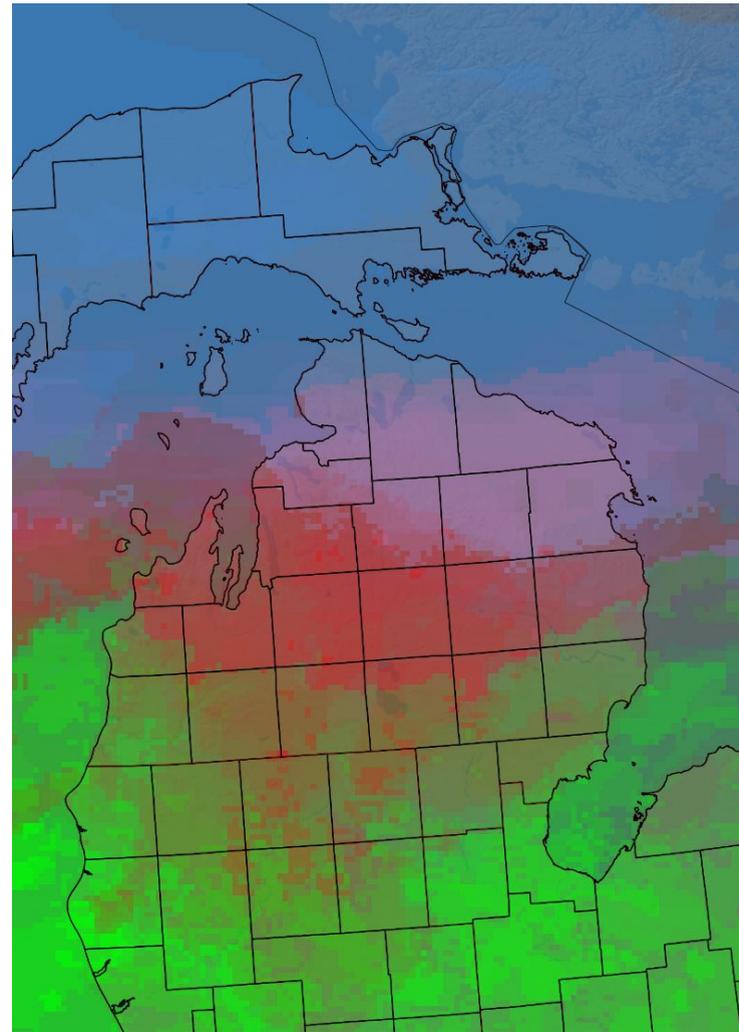


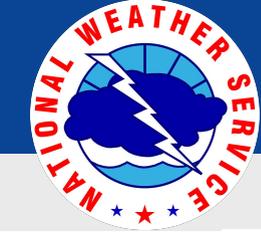
2 AM Thursday

8 AM Thursday

2 PM Thursday

8 PM Thursday





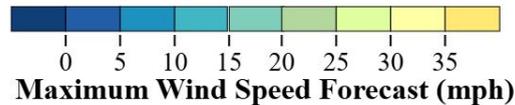
# Wind Forecast

April 1, 2026  
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Strongest wind gusts expected Thursday morning through Thursday afternoon

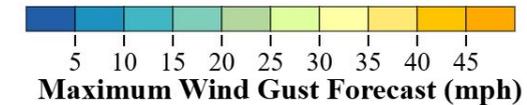
## Maximum Wind Speed (mph) Forecast

	4/1 Wed			4/2 Thu			4/3 Fri			
	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm
	Alpena	9↓	10↔	10←	14←	18←	17←	14←	13↗	14→
Boyne City	6↓	8↔	9↔	12←	16←	17←	15↖	14↗	15↗	14→
Cadillac	9↓	9←	12←	14←	17←	17←	15↖	17↗	16↗	13→
Cheboygan	12↓	12↔	12←	20←	24←	28↖	26←	20↗	23↗	22→
East Tawas	16↖	17↖	20↖	21←	23←	21←	22↑	26↗	25↗	22→
Gaylord	9↓	9↔	10←	13←	15←	16←	15↖	15↗	15↗	14→
Grayling	6↓	8↔	9↔	10←	14←	14←	12↖	14↗	13↗	13→
Houghton Lake	8↓	10←	12←	14←	17←	17←	14↖	17↗	17↗	16→
Manistee	14↖	12↖	13↖	14←	17←	20↖	22↑	23↗	18↗	12→
Mio	7↖	8↔	8←	10←	13←	13←	10↖	14↗	14↗	14→
Oscoda	12↖	15↖	14↖	14←	15←	15←	14↑	17↗	16↗	15→
Petoskey	8↓	10←	10←	15←	18←	18←	17←	17↗	18↗	15→
Rudyard	6↓	6←	6←	10←	15←	20←	20←	12↖	13→	13→
Saint Ignace	8↓	8↔	8←	14←	18←	21←	20←	14↗	15↗	15→
Sault Sainte Marie	6↓	5↖	6←	9←	14←	18←	17←	13↖	10→	10→
Traverse City	7↓	7↖	7↖	8←	12←	14←	13↖	13↗	12↗	9→
West Branch	7↓	9↖	10←	10←	13←	13←	10←	15↗	14↗	14→



## Maximum Wind Gust (mph) Forecast

	4/1 Wed			4/2 Thu			4/3 Fri				
	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm
	Alpena	15↖	14↖	17←	24←	28←	28←	24←	23↗	23↗	22→
Boyne City	16↓	18↖	22←	28←	33←	33←	32↖	32↗	31↗	28→	17↘
Cadillac	17↓	17←	22←	26←	31←	31←	30↑	31↗	30↗	23→	16↘
Cheboygan	15↓	16←	17←	26←	32←	33←	33←	28↗	29↗	28→	16↘
East Tawas	21↖	23↖	25↖	26←	29←	26←	32↑	39↗	36↗	29↗	17↘
Gaylord	16↓	18←	20←	24←	29←	30←	29↖	30↗	29↗	26→	17↘
Grayling	14↓	16←	18←	22←	28←	28←	25↑	28↗	26↗	24→	16↘
Houghton Lake	15↖	17←	21←	23←	28←	28←	26↑	31↗	29↗	25→	17↘
Manistee	18↖	17↖	17↖	20←	24←	26↖	30↑	30↗	24↗	16→	16↖
Mio	14↖	15↖	15←	18←	23←	23←	21↑	26↗	25↗	24→	15↘
Oscoda	18↖	22↖	23↖	24←	25←	24↖	26↑	32↗	30↗	25→	16↘
Petoskey	16↓	20←	22←	28←	33←	33←	31←	31↗	32↗	28→	17↘
Rudyard	13↖	10←	10←	20←	26←	31←	31←	22↖	21↗	21→	15↘
Saint Ignace	15↖	15←	16←	25←	31←	33←	33←	25↗	26↗	24→	15↘
Sault Sainte Marie	12↖	8↖	10←	17←	24←	31←	31←	23↖	18→	18→	14↘
Traverse City	20↓	18↖	20←	23←	29←	30←	29↖	32↗	30↗	23→	16↘
West Branch	15↖	17←	18←	21←	23←	24←	23↑	29↗	28↗	24→	16↘





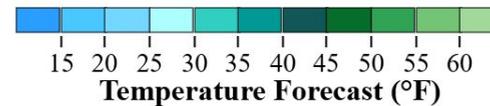
# Temperature Forecast

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Temperatures in the 20s/low 30s expected to warm above freezing thru Thursday afternoon

## Temperature (°F) Forecast

	4/1 Wed			4/2 Thu			4/3 Fri			
	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm
	Alpena	30	30	31	30	30	32	41	42	52
Boyne City	27	32	37	29	29	33	46	48	49	43
Cadillac	27	34	42	29	29	35	50	52	49	47
Cheboygan	27	27	30	29	28	30	39	40	46	42
East Tawas	33	31	31	31	32	33	44	47	52	50
Gaylord	26	29	35	27	28	31	43	47	49	43
Grayling	27	34	39	27	28	34	47	49	51	48
Houghton Lake	27	34	39	26	27	33	47	49	50	48
Manistee	32	36	43	34	34	40	52	51	45	43
Mio	29	34	37	27	29	33	47	48	54	51
Oscoda	31	33	34	30	31	34	47	48	52	54
Petoskey	26	29	35	29	28	33	43	46	48	42
Rudyard	19	26	33	25	24	28	35	35	41	40
Saint Ignace	22	26	31	27	25	30	37	37	41	40
Sault Sainte Marie	19	26	32	26	24	28	35	36	40	39
Traverse City	29	32	40	32	32	36	50	51	48	45
West Branch	29	33	38	28	29	33	47	48	53	52





# Winter Impacts Timing Thursday

April 1, 2026  
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## Impact Details

- Hazardous travel conditions possible across much of northern Michigan at various points very late tonight through Thursday.
- Strong winds and icing will lead to the possibility of localized power outages in areas that see higher end icing.
- Slick roads are possible north of the bridge.
- As temperatures warm above freezing from south to north during the day Thursday, any icing impacts should be limited in duration.

## Winter Impacts Timing

	Thu 5 AM	Thu 8 AM	Thu 11 AM	Thu 2 PM	Thu 5 PM	Thu 8 PM	Thu 11 PM	Fri 2 AM
Sault Ste Marie	None	Low	Limited	Elevated	Elevated	Limited	Low	None
Petoskey	None	Low	Elevated	Elevated	Limited	Low	None	None
Alpena	None	Low	Limited	Limited	Low	None	None	None
Gaylord	Low	Limited	Elevated	Limited	Low	None	None	None
Houghton Lake	Low	Limited	Limited	Low	None	None	None	None
Traverse City	Low	Limited	Limited	Low	None	None	None	None

Impact Level	None	Low	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
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# Thu. Night Severe Weather Outlook

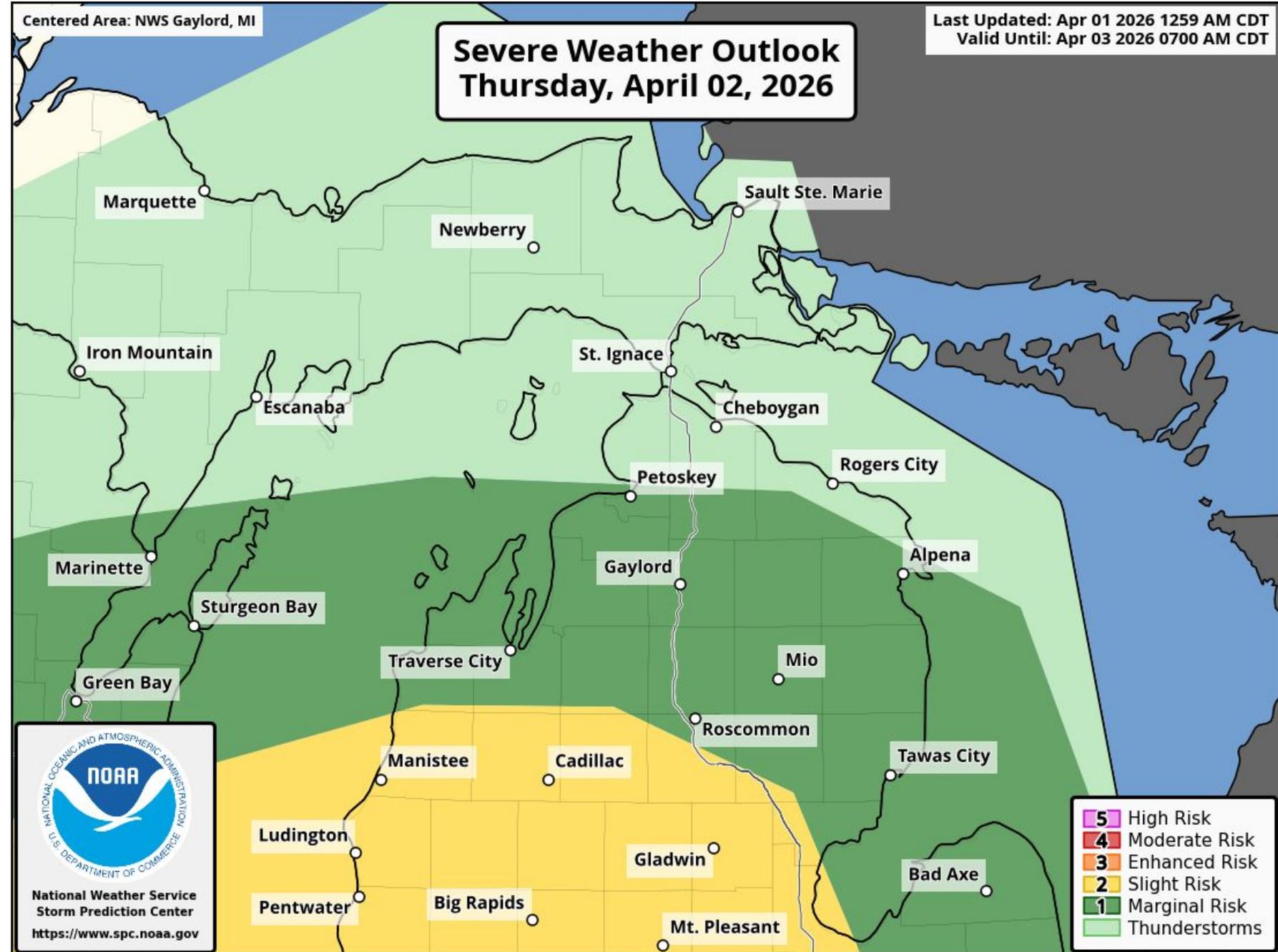
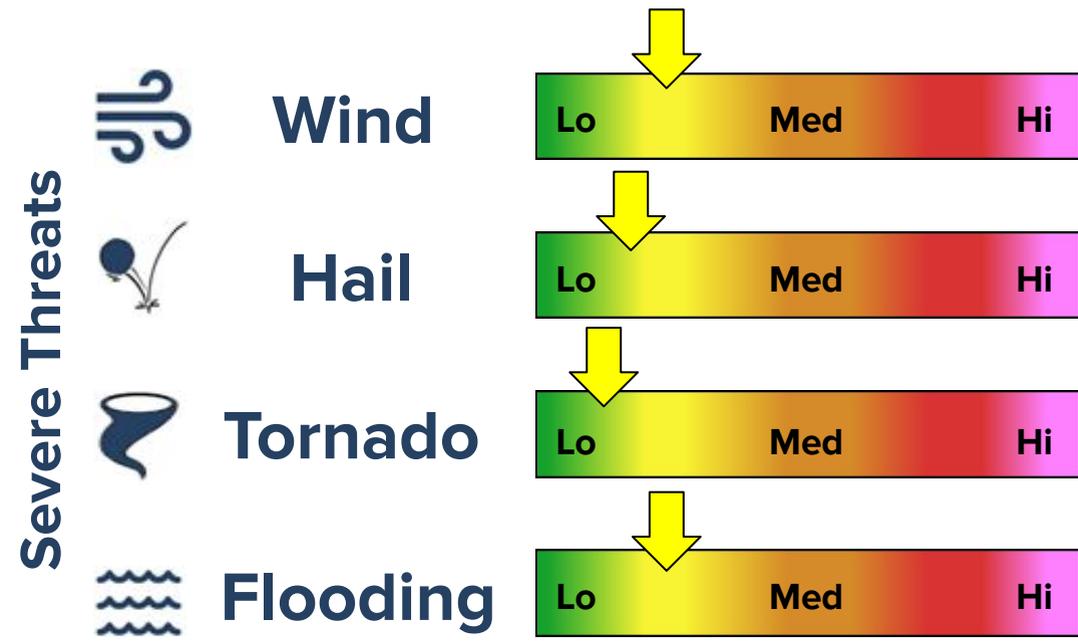
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Chance for a few severe storms

## Details

Scattered thunderstorms are possible late Thursday into Thursday night.

A few embedded strong to severe storms are possible Thursday night, primarily across northern lower MI. Locally damaging winds and heavy/excessive rain are the main threats. Large hail and an isolated tornado are also possible.





## NWS Gaylord Contact Info:

Email: [nws.gaylord@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.gaylord@noaa.gov)

Facebook: [NWSGaylord](#)

X: [@NWSGaylord](#)

## Winter Hazard Definitions:

**Winter Storm Watch:** Potential for significant winter weather event. Conditions possible, but not imminent.

**Winter Weather Advisory:** Winter weather is imminent and may cause inconveniences.

**Winter Storm Warning:** A significant winter storm is imminent and is expected to bring dangerous conditions.

**Blizzard Warning:** A significant winter storm with strong winds and prolonged extreme visibility restrictions is imminent, bringing danger to life and property.

**Ice Storm Warning:** Significant ice accumulations are imminent, bringing danger to life and property.

## Helpful Links:

### [NWS Gaylord Resources Webpage](#)

One-stop shop for links to forecast data, real-time weather monitoring, and products/info from national centers.

### [Area Forecast Discussion](#)

Detailed expert forecast discussion of the upcoming weather across northern Michigan.

### [Detailed Hourly Weather](#)

Interactive map for hourly forecast data in table and graphical format for a selectable location.

### [Weather Radar](#)

Interactive National Weather Service radar webpage.

### [Hazards Viewer](#)

Interactive map displaying the latest hazards issued by the National Weather Service.

### [DSS Packet Product Description Videos:](#)

Brief videos explaining commonly used products in our DSS packets.

### [Probabilistic Snowfall Map](#)

### [Winter Impacts Timing Table](#)

