

# Timeline of NWS Severe Convective Weather Products

1-3 Days Before

24 Hours Before

1 Hour Before

Severe Weather Event

3 p.m. the Next Day

SWO

HWO

Watch

GraphiCast

Graphicast

Graphicast

SWA

SVS

TOR

SVR

TOR

SVR

SVR

FFW

FFW

FFS

LSR

PNS

## SWO Significant Weather Outlook

Issued as needed to give 1 to 3 day notice of major severe or winter weather outbreaks.

## HWO Hazardous Weather Outlook

Issued as HWOFFC daily at 6 a.m. Updated if conditions dramatically change. Conveys the threat of hazardous weather expected by 6 a.m. the next day. Conditions forecast include thunderstorm phenomena, winter weather, dense fog, and flooding. Spotter activation messages are included.

## WCN, FFA Watches



**Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watches** are issued as WCN which includes counties affected by a specific watch. **Flash Flood Watches** are issued as FFA by the local NWS office. A watch indicates conditions are favorable for a phenomenon to occur. WCNs are typically issued 0-6 hours prior to an event, with FFAs issued up to 48 hours prior.

## GraphiCast

A forecaster-annotated map of the weather for the next 1-6 hours. Available only on NWS web pages.

= Alarm sounded on Weather Radio

## SWA Significant Weather Advisory

Issued as a Special Weather Statement (SPS), but with a "Significant Weather Advisory" headline. Issued for dangerous storms not meeting "severe" criteria. Typically issued for one hour or less and for only a few counties at a time.

## TOR Tornado Warning SVR Severe Thunderstorm Warning



Indicates danger is imminent or occurring. Severe thunderstorms contain 1" hail or larger and/or winds  $\geq$  58 mph. Issued as needed, typically for one hour or less.

## FFW Flash Flood Warning



Indicates imminent or occurring flooding characterized by rapid rises in small creeks, streams, or low-water crossings. Issued as needed, typically up to six hours in duration.

## SVS Severe Weather Statement FFS Flash Flood Statement

SVS is issued to update existing Tornado or Severe Thunderstorm Warnings. FFS updates Flash Flood Warnings. Updates activity in/near a county already under a warning. May be issued several times during a valid warning.

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| <b>LSR</b> | <b>Local Storm Report</b>  |
|            | Issued periodically during and after a severe weather event. This collection of severe weather and damage reports provides media, emergency managers, and neighboring NWS offices a quick assessment of the event's severity. Issued as soon as possible after reports are received.   |
| <b>PNS</b> | <b>Public Information Statement</b>  |
|            | A post-event summary issued by 3:00 p.m. the day after a particularly significant or interesting event. Designed for the media, it summarizes noteworthy aspects of the event, including times, locations, phenomenon counts, and meteorological conditions contributing to the event. |
| <b>SPS</b> | <b>Special Weather Statement</b>   |
|            | Used as a "catch-all" product for miscellaneous but important weather-related messages.  |

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