



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update-1 for March 25, 2021

Severe Weather Threatens Kentucky This Afternoon, Evening

(From [Press Release](#)) Gov. Andy Beshear today warned Kentuckians that strong to severe thunderstorms are expected late this afternoon and this evening across the Commonwealth. Damaging winds, isolated tornadoes and heavy rainfall are expected. The areas of greatest risk for severe weather and for a potential strong tornado are South Western and South Central Kentucky.

“Kentuckians should follow their local forecasts and be aware of changing conditions as this storm front moves through our state,” said Gov. Beshear. “Families and workplaces need to be familiar with plans for safely sheltering in place in the event of a tornado and be prepared in case there are disruptions to local utilities.”

“Given the National Weather Service advance warnings, this will be a very dangerous system capable of no-notice sporadic tornado activity throughout the evening and early morning hours across the state,” said Michael Dossett, director of the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. “Now is the time to ensure that your family, neighbors and work colleagues have reviewed their safety plan for shelter or evacuation to a safe place in the event of severe weather.

“Stay tuned to your local weather broadcast, be aware of outdoor warning sirens and review the difference between a tornado watch – a timeline where conditions are favorable for tornado activity – and a tornado warning – a radar indicated sighting of a tornado in your area,” Dossett added.

The entire Commonwealth is at risk for severe weather that includes damaging winds and isolated tornadoes. The period of greatest risk for severe weather will be from 3 p.m. EDT/2 p.m. CDT until midnight EDT.

Notes from NWS Louisville 1:30 PM ET Conference Call

[RBartlett@kyha.com] We have been through Round #1, and in most areas that is clearing now for a while. The clearing and heating of the afternoon is not necessarily a good thing, though, because it could intensify what is coming later. Round #2 is expecting between 4-7 PM ET//5-8 PM CT, tonight with the strongest weather to the south west and south central areas of the state below the Western KY and Blue Grass Parkways. The third round is expected about 8 PM ET to midnight, and will move across the state west to east. It is possible that at times wind gusts could reach 75-80 MPH, with spin-up tornadoes. The worst will be farther south from Tennessee to the Gulf coast. Unfortunately, the greatest tornado threat will be after dark when you can't see them. Localized rainfall could reach 1-2 inches in some areas. Check the Briefing Slides for TORNADO SAFETY TIPS.

NWS Louisville: WIND ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 8 PM EDT /7 PM CDT/ THIS EVENING TO 8 AM EDT /7 AM CDT/ FRIDAY. Strong to severe thunderstorms with damaging winds, large hail, and isolated tornadoes will be possible Thursday afternoon and evening. Heavy rainfall from thunderstorms may lead to some flooding in low-lying areas. After the cold front passes, strong SW winds with gust of 40-50+ mph are expected Thursday night and into early Friday morning.

BRIEFING SLIDES: <https://www.weather.gov/media/lmk/BriefingSlides.pdf>

NWS Jackson: WIND ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 5 PM THIS AFTERNOON TO 8 AM EDT FRIDAY. Today and Tonight, isolated to scattered thunderstorms are anticipated today into tonight. Some of these storms may become severe evening and produce damaging wind gusts and isolated tornadoes. The greatest threat for isolated tornadoes will be near and west of a Middlesboro to Mount Vernon line. Locally heavy rainfall is also possible in locations which see multiple thunderstorms. Outside of these storms, widespread south to southwest wind gusts of 35 to 45 mph are expected late

this afternoon and tonight. Isolated higher gusts are possible west of I-75, north of I-64, and above 2,000 feet.

NWS Paducah: Hazardous Weather Outlook with a chance of thunderstorms is forecast through the day and into the early evening. Severe storms will be possible throughout the region in the late afternoon and early evening, but the threat will be greatest over west Kentucky. Damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes will all be possible. Very strong southwest winds are expected tonight over southwest Indiana, much of southern Illinois, and the Lakes and Pennyriple regions of west Kentucky. A Wind Advisory has been issued from 7 PM through 4 AM. Paducah briefing slides:

<https://www.weather.gov/pah/weatherstory>

NWS Wilmington: HIGH WIND WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 10 PM THIS EVENING TO 10 AM EDT FRIDAY. Thunderstorms tonight may be strong to severe. Damaging winds will be the primary severe weather threat. However, isolated tornadoes will also be possible. The best window for strong to severe storms will be from 9 pm EDT to 2 am EDT.

KY Public Health is Recruiting Two Healthcare Regional Coordinators!

HPP Region 4 (HEART): <https://gohire.org/job/healthcare-coalition-readiness-and-response-coordinator-ky-region-4/>

HPP Region 7 (Appalachia HCC): <http://gohire.org/job/healthcare-coalition-readiness-and-response-coordinator-hccrc-for-region-7-kentucky-appalachian-healthcare-coalition-kdph/>

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact Preparedness@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.