



Severe Weather Risk Wednesday

June 16, 2026
3:44 AM

Several rounds of storms possible Wednesday

Key Messages

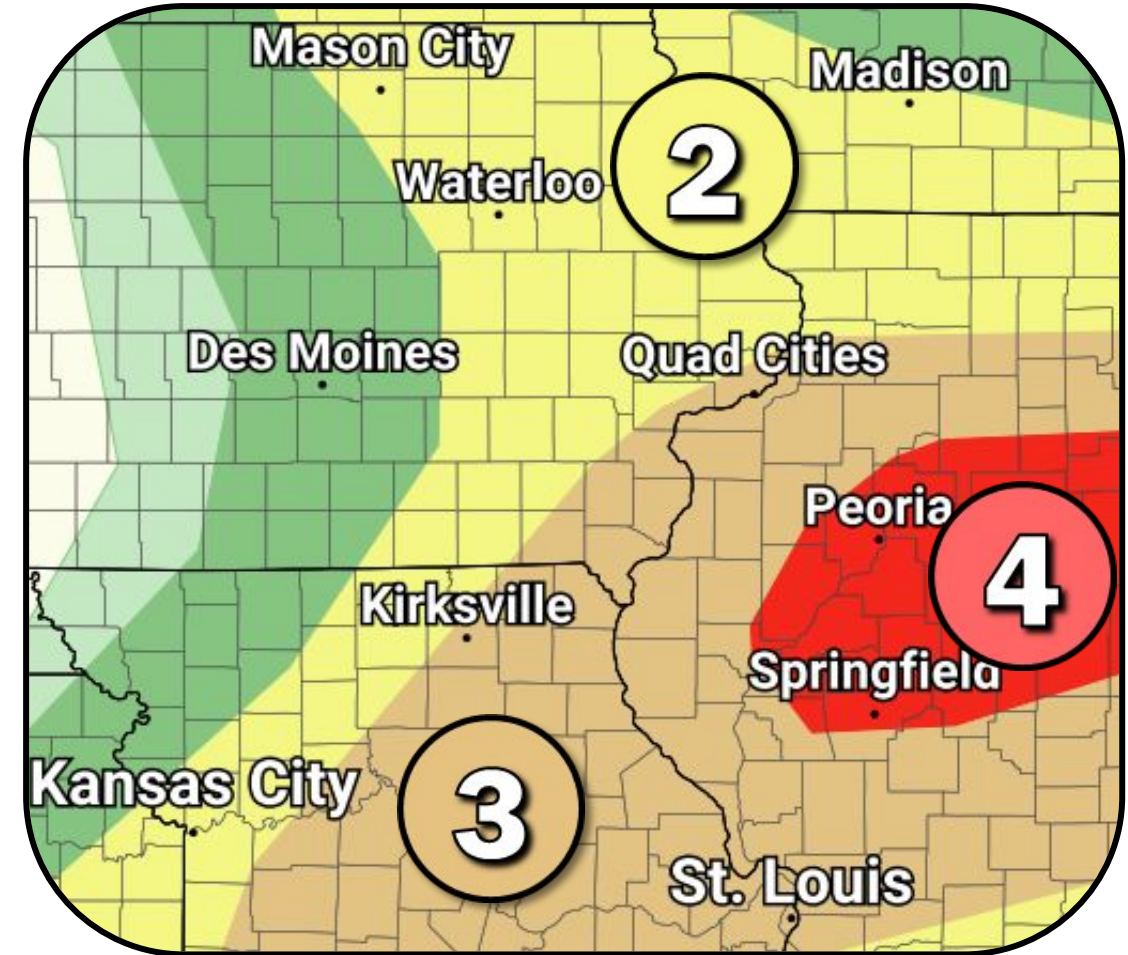
- **Severe Thunderstorms** - Storms will spread into the region during the morning and continue through the afternoon. Some storms could become severe with the primary threats being damaging winds, hail, and tornadoes, especially in central Illinois..
- **Flash Flooding** - Heavy rain is expected from storms in the morning hours through the afternoon, especially in northern Illinois.

NEW

What Has Changed

- Moderate (level 4) upgraded in central Illinois
- Enhanced (level 3) shifted north over southeast Iowa and Illinois up to Highway 30.

Wednesday's Severe Weather Outlook



Next Scheduled Update

- By 4PM Today

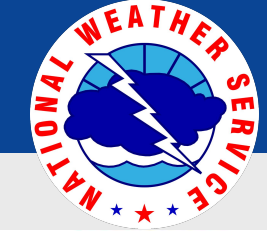
Marginal
Isolated Storms

Slight
Scattered Severe Storms

Enhanced
Numerous Severe Storms

Moderate
Widespread Severe Storms





Severe Weather Risk Wednesday

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Slight / Enhanced / Moderate Risk (level 2/3/4 of 5)

Key Messages

- Several rounds of storms are expected Wednesday.
- The strongest severe storms are expected during the afternoon, especially in Illinois.
- Severe threat diminishes into the early evening hours behind the cold front.

Primary Hazards

Severe Timing: Mainly Afternoon



Damaging Winds

70+ mph gusts



Hail

Up to golf ball (1.75")



Isolated Flash Flooding

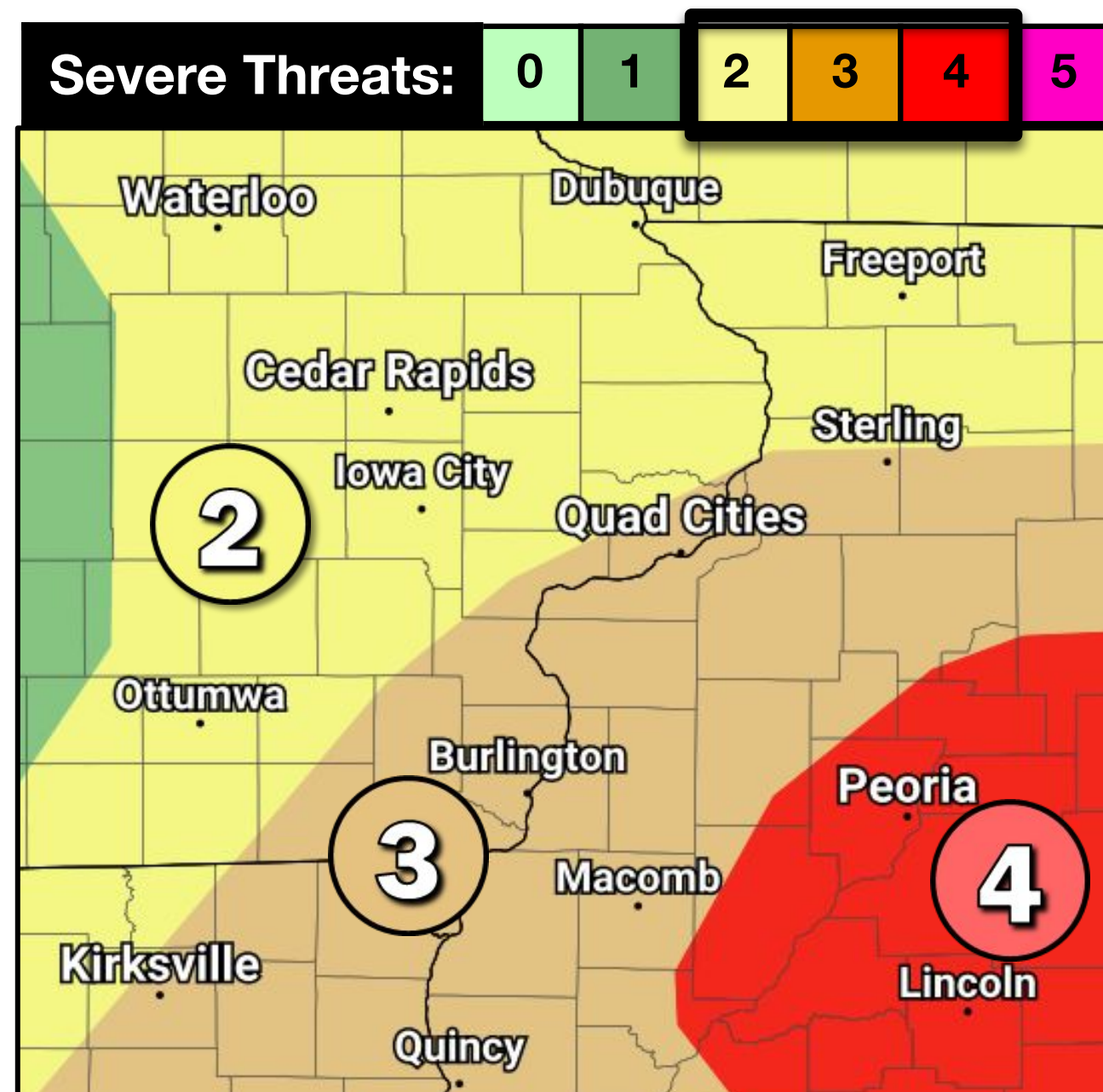


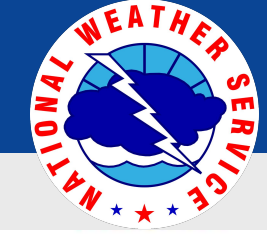
A Few Tornadoes

Actions



- Be weather aware and ready to act Wednesday.
- Have multiple ways to receive warning information!





Wednesday's Potential Scenarios

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Minimal Impact Scenario

What If? (The 'Bust')

DRIVERS: Heavy morning clouds & continuous heavy rain keep the air near the ground cool and stable.

KEY CONCERNS: Lower overall severe risk. Storms remain weak or "elevated".

POTENTIAL HAZARDS: Isolated hail (up to 1 inch). Gusty winds (mostly below 60 mph). Fewer, tornadoes. Flash flooding still a threat.

IMPACTS: Mainly travel inconvenience from rain. Potential flooding. Low emergency activation required

Most Likely Scenario

Current Expectations

DRIVERS: Initial morning storms exit, followed by significant breaks of sun by midday south of Interstate 80.

KEY CONCERNS: Active severe weather Wednesday afternoon, primarily in Illinois.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS: Widespread damaging winds (60-70 mph). Isolated intense storms (supercells) capable of tornadoes and large hail. Potential for flash flooding in areas that saw heavy morning rainfall.

IMPACTS: Activated emergency response. Public warnings required. Power outages. Tree and minor structural damage.

High Impact Scenario

What IF? (The 'Outbreak')

DRIVERS: Morning storms clears before 10 AM.. Maximum sunshine heats the area, boosting atmospheric instability.

KEY CONCERNS: Significant severe weather outbreak.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS: Multiple tornadoes (some strong). Widespread damaging winds (75+ mph). Very large hail. Moderate impact flash flooding.

IMPACTS: Widespread activated emergency response. Major, widespread structural damage. Coordinated, multi-jurisdictional response.





Heavy Rainfall Potential on Wednesday

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Saturated grounds keep flooding potential elevated.

Key Messages

- Already near saturated grounds and the potential for two rounds of showers and storms on Wednesday poses a flash flooding threat.
- Current area of interest is in east-central Iowa and northwest Illinois where the heaviest rainfall rates will be the most prolonged.

Threats



Periods of Heavy Rainfall

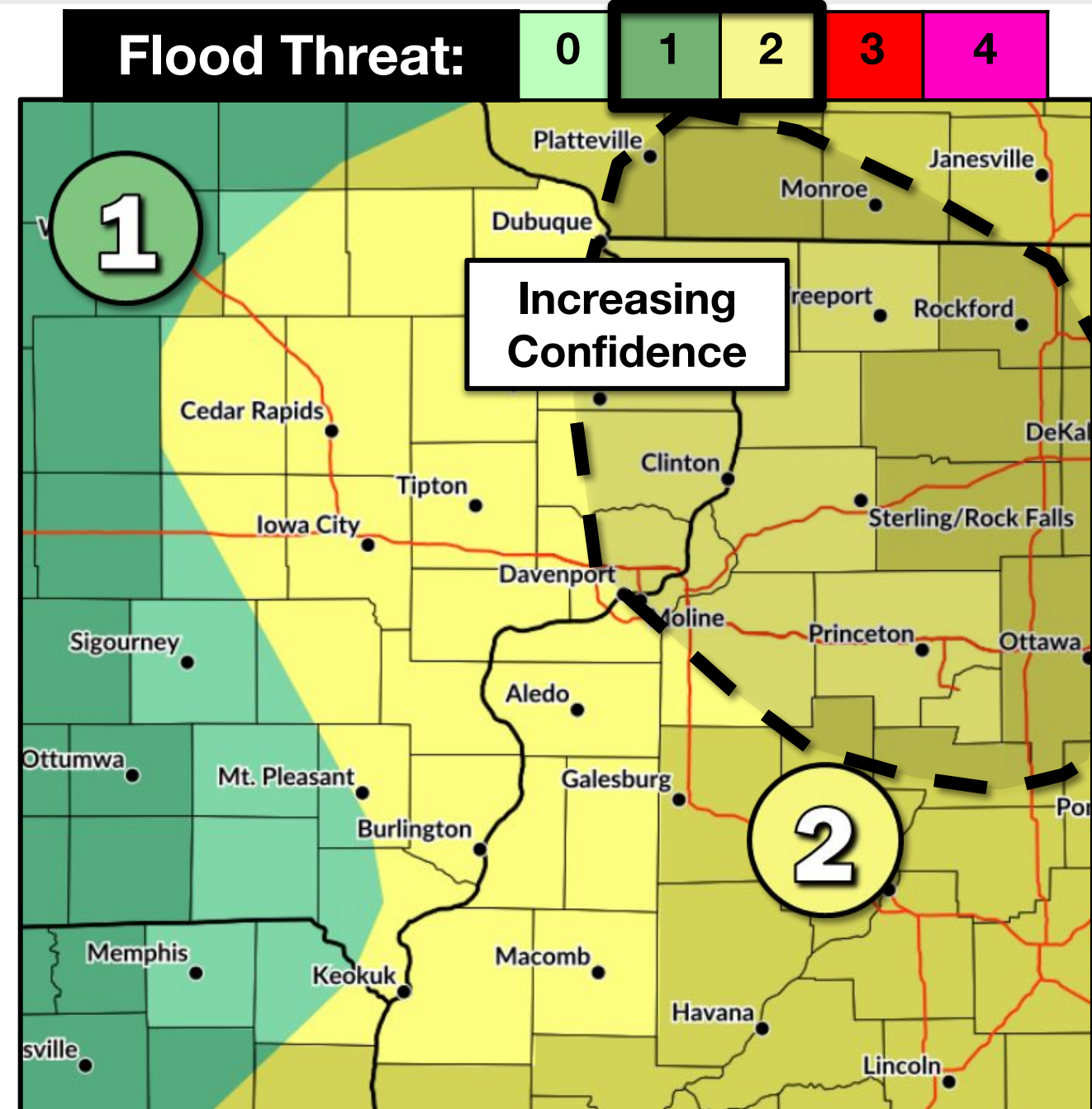
May flood roads, low-lying areas, fields, and basements, and cause rapid stream/creek rises



Rising Tributary Rivers

Actions

- ✓ NEVER drive or walk across flooded roadways.
- ✓ Check river observations & forecasts at water.noaa.gov.



STORM PLANNING TIMELINE

A few days out

If the forecast calls for severe weather in a few days, start preparing now.



Make sure that you have emergency supplies



Know your safe places



Have a family communication plan

The day before

The day before, forecast accuracy continues to improve.



Adjust plans



Make sure your phone can receive WEAs



Ensure your shelter is clean and accessible

The day of

Remain vigilant and aware of any active Watches. A Warning may be issued at a moment's notice!



Remind your family of the communication plan



Know how to evacuate and/or get to safety from wherever you are



When a Warning is issued, you may only have seconds to take action!



Preparedness Reminders

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Stay Weather Aware and Prepared!

6 WAYS to receive a warning



NOAA Weather Radio



Local TV and Radio



Wireless Emergency Alerts & Weather Apps



Outdoor Sirens



Internet Sites



weather.gov

weather.gov



From Your Friends, Family and Coworkers



Camping Safety

PREPARING FOR WEATHER

KNOW YOUR WEATHER FORECAST

NOTIFY FAMILY/FRIENDS OF YOUR PLANS

HAVE AN EVACUATION PLAN, KNOW WHERE AND HOW FAST YOU CAN FIND SHELTER

PACK A SAFETY KIT AND WEATHER RADIO



weather.gov/lightning

Weather Safety ON THE LAKE

- KNOW THE FORECAST BEFORE HEADING OUT
- HAVE A PORTABLE WEATHER RADIO OR AN AM/FM RADIO IN THE BOAT
- IF SKIES TURN THREATENING, HEAD TO SHORE!

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WHEN THUNDER ROARS GO INDOORS

Lightning Fatalities For Outdoor Sports

40% SOCCER	27% GOLF
17% RUNNING	10% BASEBALL
3% FOOTBALL	3% OTHER

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step 1 Leave the field immediately

step 2 Seek shelter in an enclosed building or car

Wait 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder to return outside

School Home Hard-topped Vehicle Windows UP!

[Lightning Safety](#) | [Severe Weather Safety](#) | [Flooding Safety](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Quad Cities, IA/IL