Winter Weather Threat Tonight and Saturday January 7, 2017

National Weather Service Newport/Morehead City, NC

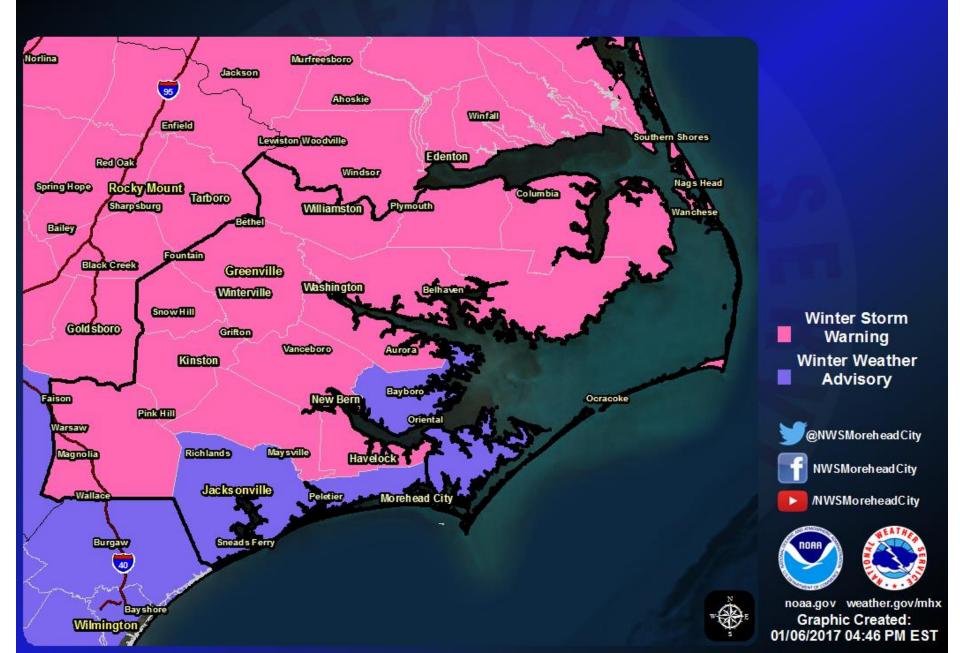
Key Points

- Changes this update: Winter Storm Warning expanded. Ice accumulations and impacts have increased across much of the area.
- **Ice Accumulations:** Freezing rain has become one of the primary threats from this storm, with anywhere from a tenth to a third of an inch possible across the northern and western portion of the area.
- Snow and Sleet Accumulations: There could still be two to four inches of snow and sleet across the extreme north and northwest portion of the area.
- **Timing:** The onset of the winter precipitation will likely begin as rain this evening. The precipitation will likely transition to freezing rain overnight between midnight and 7 AM inland for the coastal plain and northern areas, transitioning to snow and sleet Saturday Morning. Along coastal areas south of Oregon inlet, it will be mostly rain transitioning to a wintry mix Saturday Afternoon.

Most Significant Impacts:

- Increased ice accumulations along with snow and sleet will make travel very treacherous, especially on bridges and overpasses. With bitterly cold temps, travel impacts will continue after the event through Saturday Night and possibly through the Monday Morning commute.
- Ice accumulations on trees and power lines and breezy conditions will result in downed limbs and power lines with scattered power outages. Some could be left without power during the bitter cold without a heat source.
- Bitterly cold temperatures and wind chills will occur both Saturday and Sunday Night.
- Minor to moderate coastal flooding will occur soundside Outer Banks from Buxton through Ocracoke, to Downeast Carteret County with water level rises two to 3 feet above normal or one to two feet above ground during the day Saturday into Saturday Night.
- Minor to Moderate Beach erosion could occur from around Cape Hatteras northward through Saturday and into Sunday, especially around high tides.

...A Winter Storm Will Affect Eastern North Carolina Tonight And Saturday With A Variety Of Precipitation Types...



Winter Weather (Late Friday Night-Early Saturday Eve)



Graphic created: 1/6 @5pm

Zone A

- Significant period of freezing rain after midnight transitioning to sleet and snow Saturday morning
- Significant Ice accumulations of a quarter to half inch
- Snow accumulations of 2 to 4 inches possible.
- Very treacherous driving and scattered power outages through at least Saturday Night

Zone B

- Significant period of freezing rain beginning after midnight transitioning to sleet and snow Saturday morning or early afternoon.
- Significant ice accumulations of a tenth to quarter inch
- Snow and sleet accumulations of around an inch
- Very treacherous driving and scattered power outages through at least Saturday Night

Zone C

- Mostly rain, then possibly changing to a mix Saturday afternoon.
- Minimal accumulation of freezing rain, sleet, and snow.
 - Could have some slick spots on roads, especially bridges and overpasses.

Snow and Sleet Accumulation

With increased amounts of freezing rain and sleet expected, snowfall/sleet accumulations have been further reduced.

The snow and sleet would be falling following a period of freezing rain, which would result in the potential for extremely hazardous travel conditions, especially on bridges and overpasses.



Newport/Morehead City North Carolina

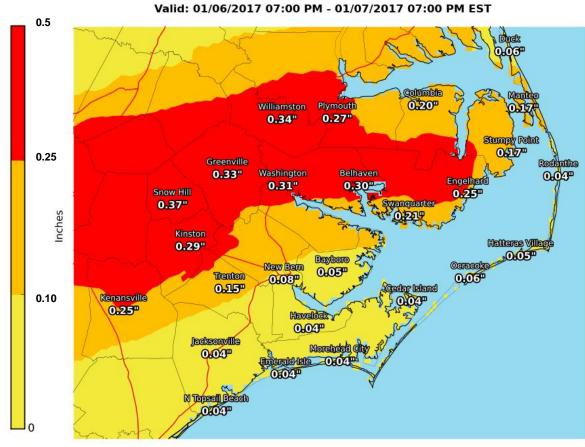
weather.gov/mhx/winter

01/06/2017 02:17 PM EST

Ice Accumulation

Warm air just above the surface will allow for a more prolonged period of freezing rain tonight into Saturday morning before the change over to sleet and snow occurs.

Over a quarter inch of ice is possible across the northwest portion of the area, with only a light accumulation possible coastal areas south of Oregon Inlet.



Storm Total Ice



National Weather Service Newport/Morehead City North Carolina 01/06/2017 02:15 PM EST

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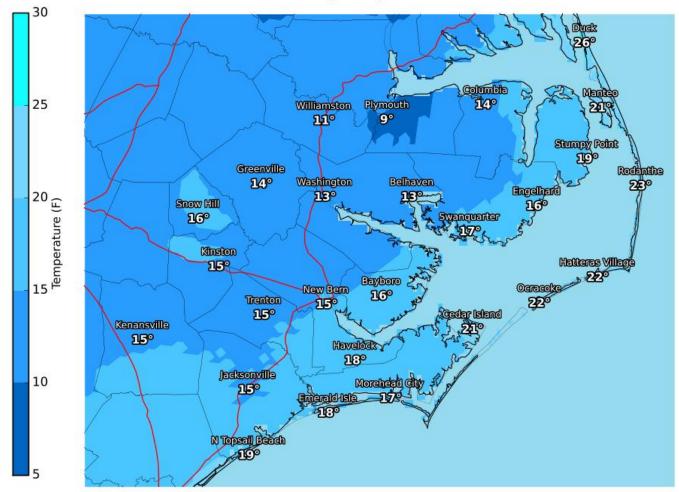


weather.gov/mhx/winter

Actual Low Temperature Saturday Night

Sunday Morning Lows

Valid: January 08, 2017



National Weather Service

01/06/2017 04:28 PM EST

Newport/Morehead City North Carolina

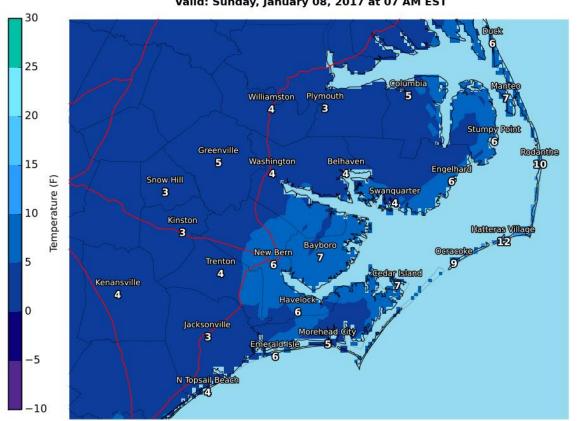




Sunday Morning Wind Chills

Wind Chill Sunday Morning

Valid: Sunday, January 08, 2017 at 07 AM EST



Very cold temperatures are expected Sunday and Monday, with wind chill values both mornings in the single digits for most locations.

Steps should be taken to prevent exposed pipes from freezing especially Saturday and Sunday Nights.



National Weather Service Newport/Morehead City North Carolina 01/06/2017 04:27 PM EST

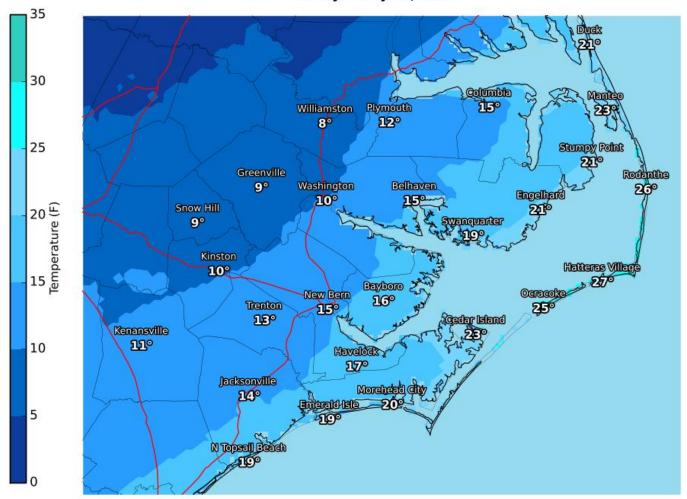


weather.gov/mhx

Actual Low Temperature Sunday Night

Monday Morning Lows

Valid: January 09, 2017

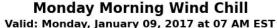


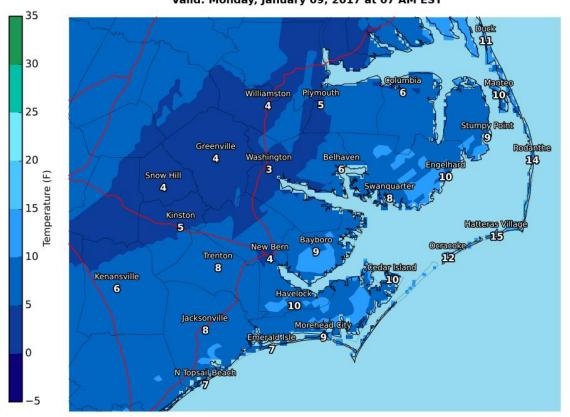


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Monday Morning Wind Chills







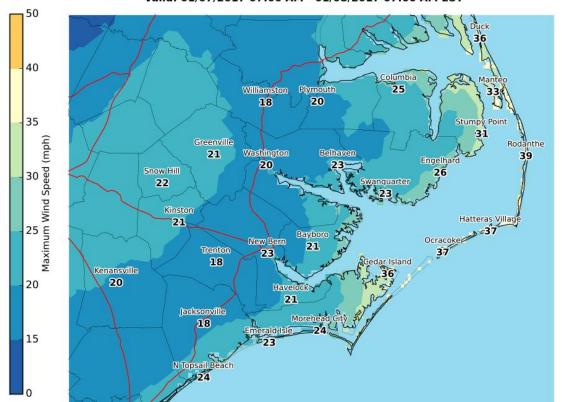
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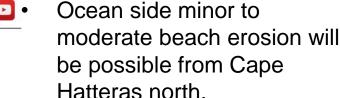
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Strong Winds and Coastal Flooding Threat





- Strong winds along the coast are anticipated.
- Gale force winds are likely over much of the coastal waters with wind advisories coastal counties.
- The strong winds will result in minor to moderate coastal flooding along the sound side of the Outer Banks from around Buxton through Ocracoke to Downeast Carteret County.



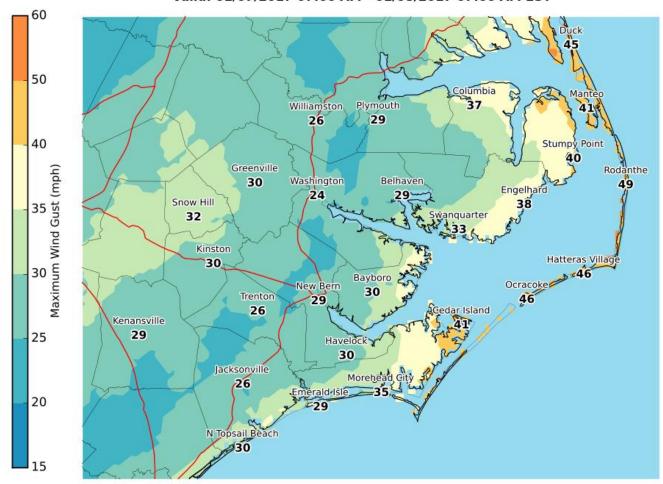




Maximum Wind Gusts

Max Wind Gust Forecast

Valid: 01/07/2017 07:00 AM - 01/08/2017 07:00 AM EST







For updates call the forecaster on Duty (252) 223-5122 x5

References:

NWS Newport/Morehead City

http://www.erh.noaa.gov/mhx/

WPC Winter Weather Forecasts

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/wwd/winter_wx.shtml

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