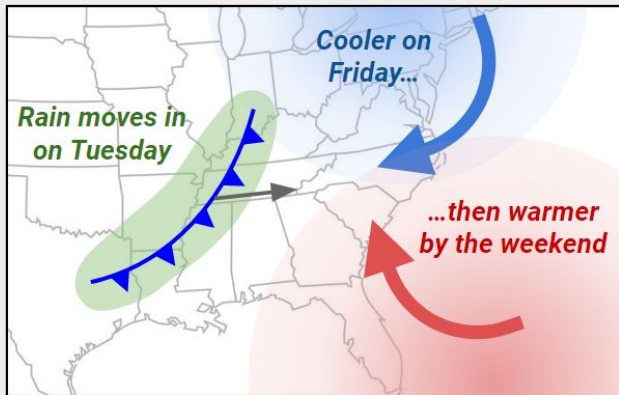


Short-Range Outlook for North Carolina

Week 1:

March 3 to 9, 2022

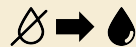


Warming Up This Weekend



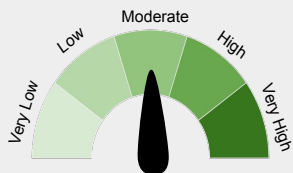
A cooler and less humid air mass will move in from the north by Friday. After that, temperatures and relative humidity will increase through the weekend, with daytime highs approaching the low 80s by Monday. Winds should generally be light this week.

Rain Arrives Tuesday



Our next shot of rain will come via a cold front approaching from the west on Tuesday. Current forecasts show rainfall totals of less than an inch, and following the recent trend, the highest amounts are likely to be in our northern and western counties.

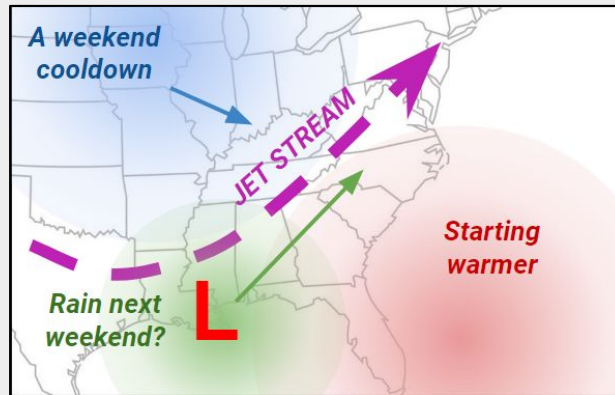
Forecast Confidence



The timing of Tuesday's front is uncertain. Some models show rain arriving Monday night, while others wait until midday Tuesday.

Week 2:

March 10 to 16, 2022



A Mid-Month Cooldown



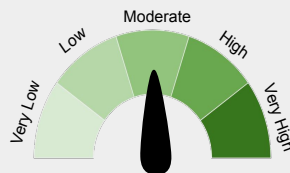
The jet stream is expected to shift eastward this week. Initially, North Carolina should be on the warm side with highs in the 60s. Over the weekend, though, a strong cold front could drop our highs into the 40s and 50s, with nighttime lows at or below freezing.

A Wetter Week



The shifting jet stream should put the storm track over the Carolinas, with Gulf and Atlantic moisture available for incoming systems. Some models hint at a prolonged precipitation event next weekend, with an inch of rain or more possible across the state.

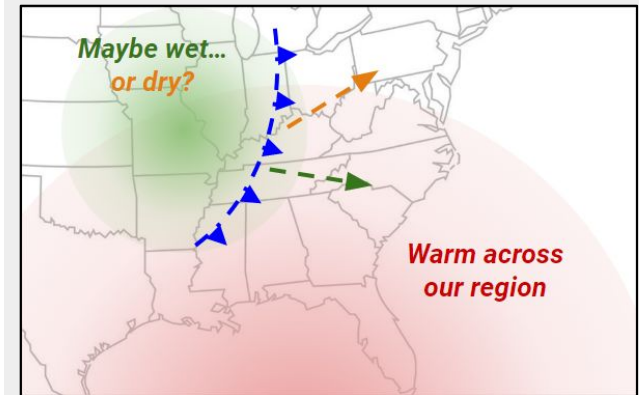
Forecast Confidence



Models generally agree on the large-scale setup, but predicting the timing and amounts of rain events is challenging this far out.

Weeks 3-4:

March 17 to 30, 2022



Spring Marches On



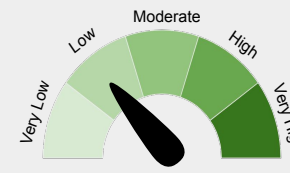
Most longer-range forecasts keep the Southeast US including North Carolina in a warmer pattern through the end of the month. Our average high temperatures in late March range from the upper 50s in the Mountains to the upper 60s across the Coastal Plain.

A Variable Precipitation Pattern?



While our late-month temperatures may continue to match the typical La Niña pattern, that doesn't mean it will be entirely dry as well. Currently, some models favor wetter weather continuing through Week 3 before becoming drier by the last week of March.

Forecast Confidence



This far in advance, there is limited skillful guidance for late March, aside from the indications of a warm weather pattern persisting.