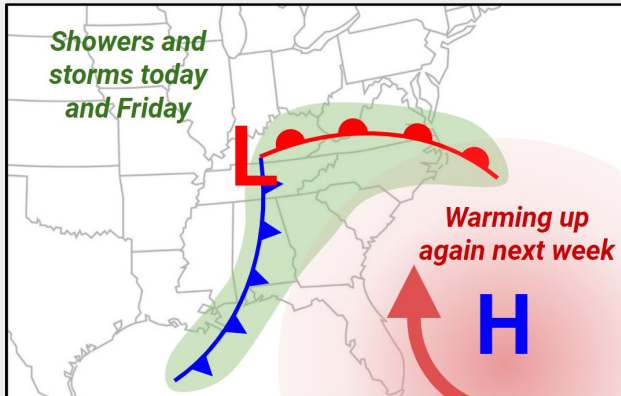


Short-Range Outlook for North Carolina

Week 1:

March 2 to 8, 2023

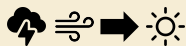


Spring-Like Weather Continues



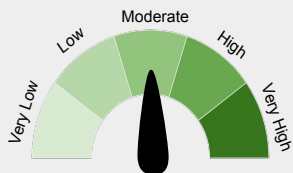
Temperatures will again reach the 70s today before a cold front moves through and brings in slightly cooler air, with lows near 40°F on Sunday morning. High pressure building offshore by early next week will help our highs climb back into the upper 60s.

Unsettled Weather to Start



A stalled front will bring patchy rain showers today, with up to half an inch in the north and west. Friday's cold front will bring more showers and storms, along with wind gusts of up to 40 mph. After that, expect clearing and dry weather through next Tuesday.

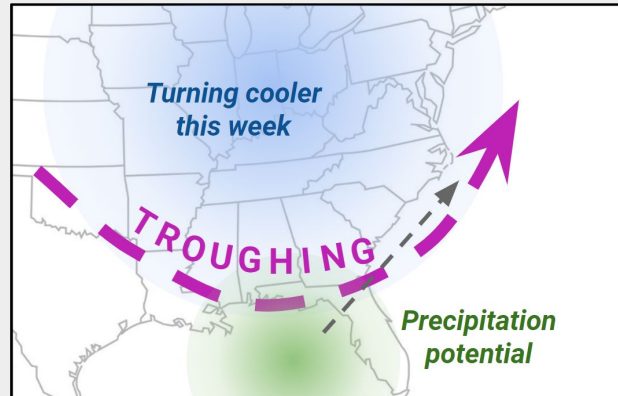
Forecast Confidence



Confidence is higher in the rain amounts (decreasing to the south and east) but lower about the timing and threat for severe weather.

Week 2:

March 9 to 15, 2023



Tumbling Temperatures



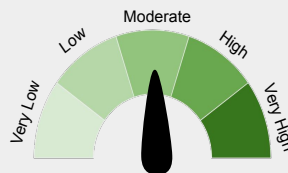
A major pattern change is set for this week, as troughing in the jet stream will shift over the eastern US and drop our temperatures back below normal. Lows could fall below freezing, which could damage early-blooming vegetation and delay green-up.

Wet By Late Weekend



As the jet stream dives southward, it may carry moisture and storm systems out of the Gulf of Mexico and into our area. Current forecasts suggest late next weekend could be wetter, with rain likely but frozen precipitation also possible if it's cold enough.

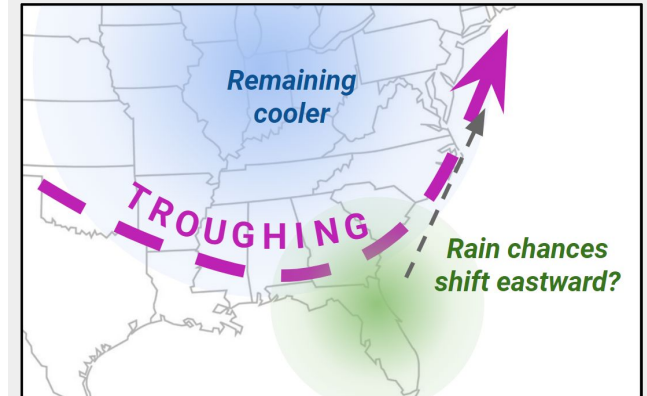
Forecast Confidence



The main uncertainty this week is the timing of the arrival of the cooler air. The week may start warm but is likely to finish cool.

Weeks 3-4:

March 16 to 29, 2023



Cool Weather Continues



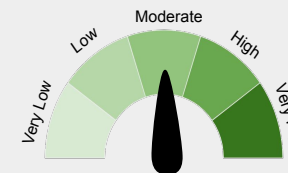
Longer-range forecasts expect the troughing pattern from Week 2 to persist, with cooler conditions across much of the eastern US, including North Carolina. Our normal high temperatures in late March are in the upper 60s, with lows in the 40s.

Rain Down East?



The jet stream pattern should continue to support a storm track to our south and east, with the potential for offshore low pressure systems moving up our coastline. That could bring needed precipitation across still-dry parts of eastern North Carolina.

Forecast Confidence



Model forecasts strongly support this cooler pattern setting up by mid-March, but they offer fewer clues about how long it will last.