

What you need to know about ... Forecasts

article revised October 2009

Oklahoma is known for quick-changing weather patterns. This makes predicting weather difficult, and forecasts are often reviewed, discussed and argued. Will it rain? How much? Will it freeze or not freeze? Is a cold front coming?

Agweather offers numerous forecast options for weather forecasts. Many of these forecasts are developed by the National Weather Service.

Creating forecasts

To create a forecast, meteorologists look at a large amount of information ranging from observations, weather balloons, radar, satellite and computer models. They use this information to produce forecasts, which could be for 30 minutes into the future or up to 8 days.

Because of the uncertainty of Oklahoma weather, forecasts offer a useful way to plan activities. The Agweather Web site offers a number of helpful, expert forecasts and packages them into one easy-to-use site.

Forecast products

The Agweather Web site features the National Weather Service **Forecast at a Glance and Detailed Forecast** page, which presents a pictorial of the forecast as well as a detailed explanation. Consider this your one-stop shop for an overview of forecast information.

Agweather also offers the National Weather Service **Hour-By-Hour Forecast** that can display up to nine variables including temperature, rain, relative humidity and wind. Weather data

is graphed over time so you can easily see trends and changes. This product allows you to look at only the information you are interested in and turn off the information that is irrelevant to you.

Another forecast option is the National Weather Service **Regional Outlook**. This forecast gives you a picture of the most important weather story that is happening. It could be severe weather, wild fires, winter weather or simply a cold or warm front.

AGWEATHER about

Home Weather Soil/Water Radar/Satellite **Forecast** Climate Livestock Crop Horticulture

Your National Weather Service forecast
Stillwater OK

Enter Your "City, ST" or zip code

NWS Norman, OK Mobile Weather Information | En Español
Point Forecast: Stillwater OK Last Update: 8:32 am CDT Sep 29, 2009
36.11°N 97.05°W Forecast Valid: 3pm CDT Sep 29, 2009-6pm CDT Oct 5, 2009

Forecast at a Glance

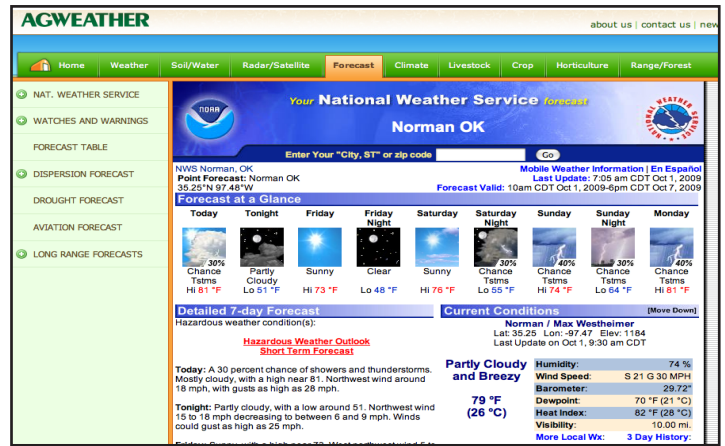
This Afternoon	Tonight	Wednesday Night	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Partly Sunny	30% Chance Tstms	60% Tstms Likely	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
Hi 78 °F	Lo 52 °F	Hi 84 °F	Lo 67 °F	Hi 77 °F	Lo 47 °F	Hi 71 °F	Lo 46 °F	Hi 73 °F

See back for instructions on viewing forecast products available on <http://agweather.mesonet.org>



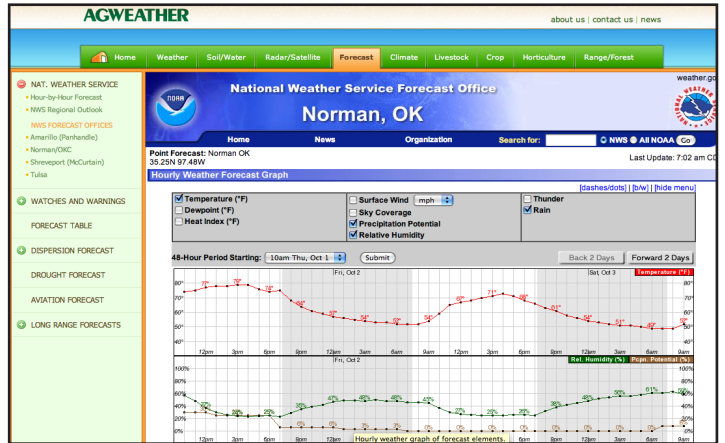
Forecast at a Glance

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Make sure you have selected your closest Mesonet tower in the “Current Weather at” section on the right
- Select “Forecast”
- The forecast is automatically displayed. The Forecast at a Glance is displayed at the top and the Detailed Forecast is shown below
- Use the search bar to find forecasts for any zip code in the United States



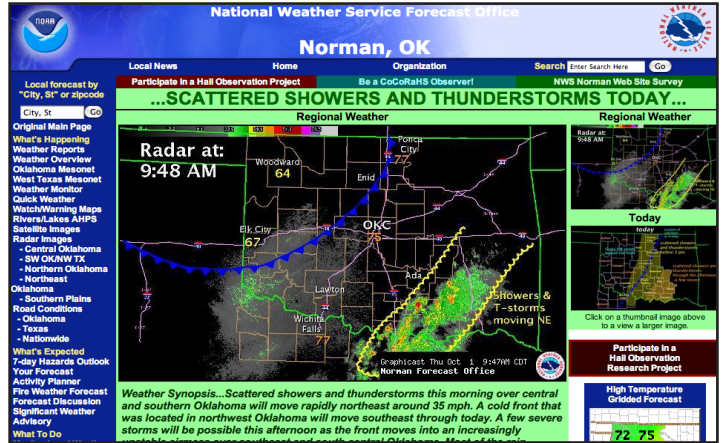
Hour-by-Hour Forecast

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Make sure you have selected your closest Mesonet tower in the “Current Weather at” section on the right
- Select “Forecast” from the horizontal menu
- Choose “Nat. Weather Service” in the menu on the left side of your screen
- Click “Hour-by-Hour Forecast” from the left menu
- This forecast allows you to check the items you are interested in viewing and uncheck the items you do not wish to see



Regional Outlook

- Start at <http://agweather.mesonet.org>
- Make sure you have selected your closest Mesonet tower in the “Current Weather at” section on the right
- Select “Forecast” from the horizontal menu
- Choose “Nat. Weather Service” in the menu on the left side of your screen
- Click “NWS Regional Outlook” from the left menu
- This forecast gives you a picture of the most important current weather story



Questions? Call us at 405-325-3126

Our story

In 1982, Oklahoma scientists recognized the need for a statewide weather network.

At OSU, agricultural scientists wanted to upgrade weather instruments at their research sites. Their goal was to expand the use of weather data in agricultural applications.

Meanwhile, scientists from OU and the Oklahoma Climatological Survey were helping to plan and implement a flood-warning system for Tulsa.

OSU and OU joined forces in 1987 when they realized that one statewide weather network would

help both universities achieve their missions.

No other state or nation is known to have a network that boasts the capabilities of the Oklahoma Mesonet.

Agweather is one Web site that features data from the Oklahoma Mesonet. Agweather provides weather-related products for agriculture and natural resources.

Agweather can be found at <http://agweather.mesonet.org/>.



Agweather
LOCAL. RELIABLE. FREE.

