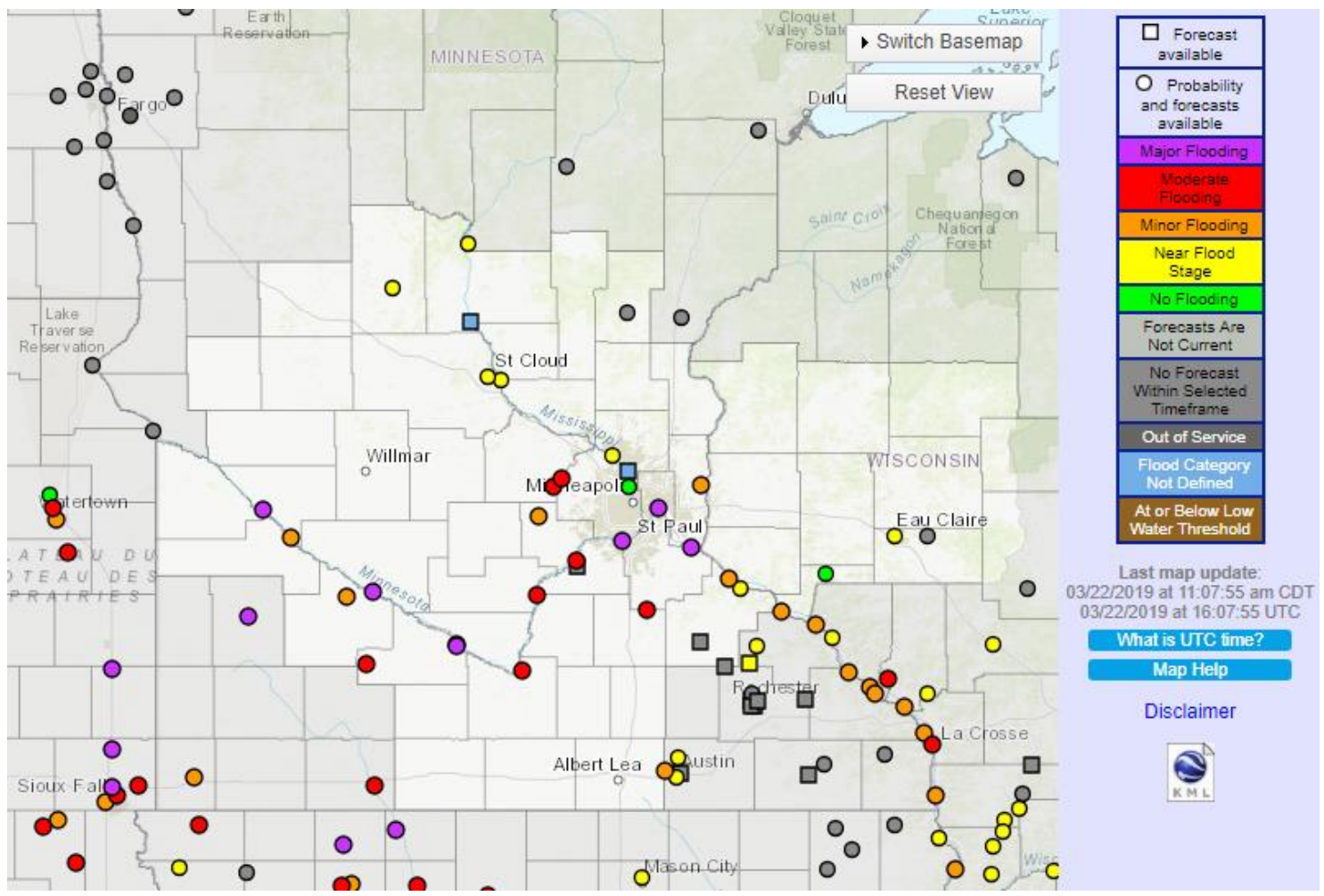




Flooding due to Ice Jams and Snowmelt

Map of Flood Forecast Points

(Forecasts as of Friday at 11 AM...use link below for updates)



<https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/forecasts.php?wfo=MPX>

Message of the Day:



Ice jam and snowmelt flooding will continue this weekend and into next week for all basins in central/southern MN and west central WI.

Important Forecast Changes



More ice jams in the upper Minnesota basin, and river forecasts up about a foot in the Minnesota and Mississippi from yesterday.

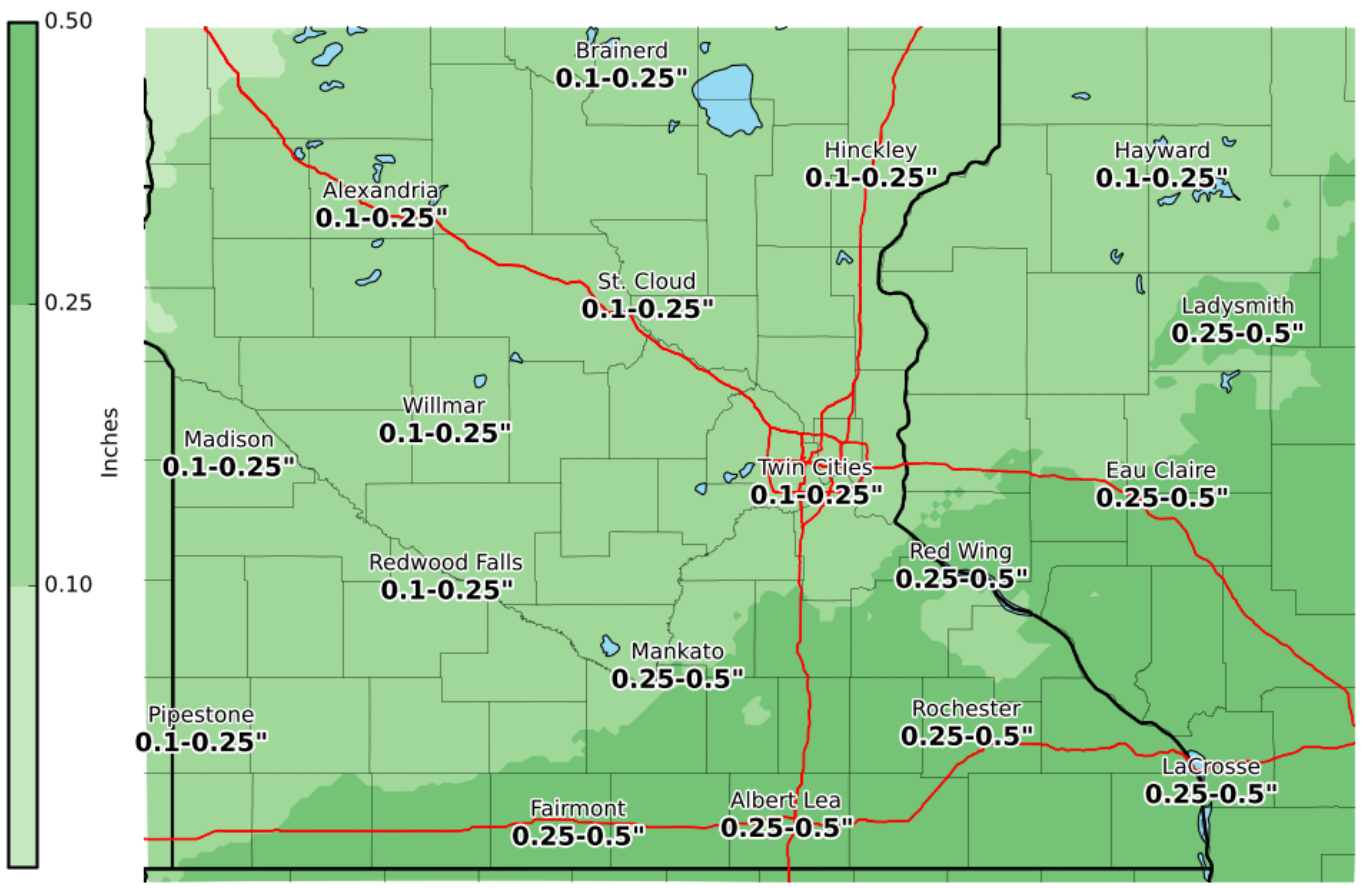


Flooding due to Ice Jams and Snowmelt

Temperature Outlook

Day of the Week	Highs	Lows
Saturday, March 23	Upper 40s to Upper 50s	Upper 10s to Upper 20s
Sunday, March 24	Low 40s to Low 50s	Upper 20s to Upper 30s
Monday, March 25	Mid 30s to Mid 40s	Mid 10s to Mid 20s
Tuesday, March 26	40s	Mid 10s to Mid 20s
Wednesday, March 27	Mid 50s to Low 60s	30s
Thursday, March 28	Mid 50s to Low 60s	40s

7 Day Forecast Precipitation (mostly late next week)





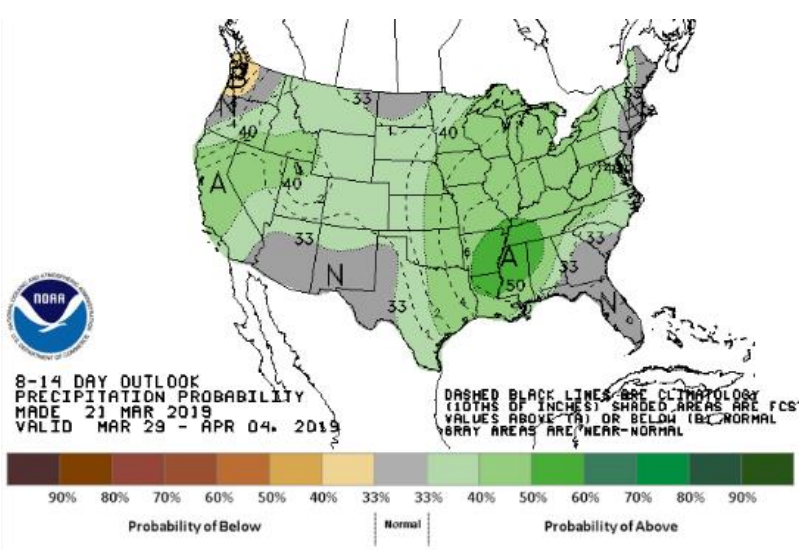
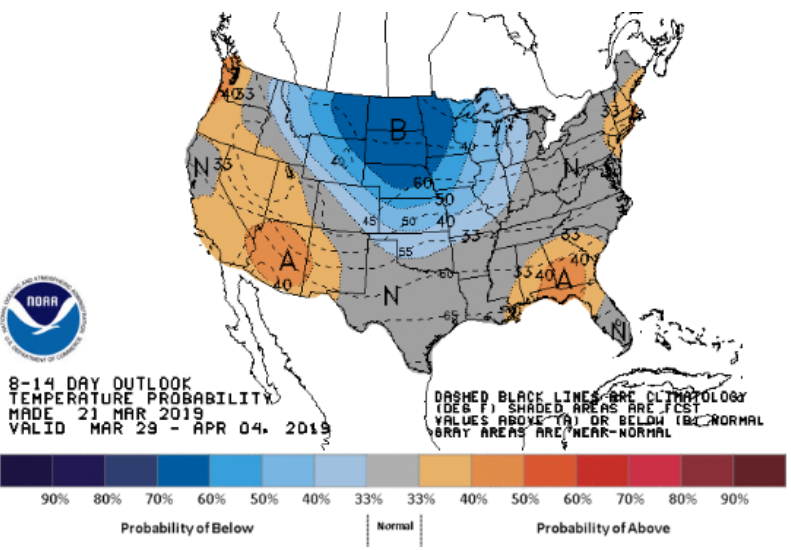
Flooding due to Ice Jams and Snowmelt

Background Conditions:

- The main spring snowmelt continues over our area. No rain, mild days and a freeze up at night is helping slow the melt.
- As ice melts and begins to break up and move in streams and rivers, ice jams can form at slow spots or areas with debris. An ice jam can cause sudden rises upstream as the jam forms and holds, and downstream when it releases.
- Water from the melting snowpack will continue to fill low areas in fields, and release toward streams and rivers as the soil thaws.

Outlook:

- Gradual snowmelt will cause rising river levels.
- Chance of rain will remain low until late next week.
- Longer range outlook for the first week of April shows some potential for precipitation and below normal temperatures:



<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>



Flooding due to Ice Jams and Snowmelt

Potential Impacts:

- Flooding is expected to impact more roads and continue to affect some bridges over the next week. Please pay attention to closures and notices from local authorities.

River Basins Potentially Impacted:

- All basins in central/southern MN and west central WI.
- For the main-stem Mississippi, the threat is highest from St. Paul downstream.

How to Monitor River Levels and Forecasts:

- Utilize the NWS River Observation and Forecast page:
 - <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=mpx>
 - Mobile friendly version: <https://www.weather.gov/mpx/AreaRivers>
- *Note: the Long Range Probabilities on that page are still valid and will not be updated. Now that the melt has started, use the hydrographs at the links above to get the most accurate, current forecasts.*
- Current Warnings available at: <https://www.weather.gov/mpx>



Message of the Day:

Ice jam and snowmelt flooding will continue this weekend and into next week for all basins in central/southern MN and west central WI.



Inland Flooding on the Cottonwood River at Springfield, 3/20/2019

Flood Quick Facts and Preparedness:

Quick facts you should know about flooding:

- Flooding can be caused by heavy rain, rapid snow melt, coastal storms, storm surge, waterway overflow, ice jamming, levee overtopping, dam failure, or from wastewater systems.
- It only takes 6 inches of fast-moving water to knock you off your feet.
- A car can be moved in as little as 2 feet of water.
- 90% of all U.S. natural disasters declared by the President involve flooding.

Preparedness:

Know your risk: Are you in a flood-prone area? Know your zone: www.fema.gov/flood-zones

- You must purchase separate flood insurance for your home. There is a 30 day wait period between when you buy a flood insurance policy and when it goes into effect. Plan ahead!
- A **Flood Watch** is issued when conditions are favorable for flooding. *Time to prepare!*
- A **Flood Warning** is issued when flooding is imminent or occurring. *Time to act!*

Never drive into flood waters! Turn around, don't drown!



Find out more information on our web page: www.weather.gov/mpx/

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for more up to date information:



@NWSTwinCities



NWS Twin Cities, MN



Building a Weather-Ready Nation