

Nebraska Heat Awareness Day



June 28, 2021

Summer in finally here, but with all the BBQ's, vacations and fun associated with being outdoors comes the potential dangers of hazardous summer heat. Summer heat can escalate quickly. Now is the time to prepare for the dangers of summer heat and educate yourself on ways you can mitigate those potential hazards.

- Never leave a child, disabled person or a pet locked in car. It is not safe, not for one minute, even during the coldest months of winter. Temperatures in motor vehicles can heat quickly when left in the sun and death in humans can occur in less than 10 minutes. A reported 51 pediatric vehicular heatstroke deaths occurred in 2019. Children locked in cars have died during 70 degree weather in December. It is not safe, never leave a child locked in a car!
- During extremely hot and humid weather, your body's ability to cool itself is challenged. When the body heats too rapidly to cool itself properly, or when too much fluid or salt is lost through dehydration or sweating, body temperature rises and you or someone you care about may experience a heat-related illness.

• Slow down: reduce, eliminate or reschedule strenuous activities until the coolest time of the day. Children, seniors and anyone with health problems should stay in the

coolest available place, not necessarily indoors.

- Dress for summer. Wear lightweight, loose fitting, light-colored clothing to reflect heat and sunlight.
- Drink plenty of water (not very cold), non-alcoholic and decaffeinated fluids, even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Use air conditioners or spend time in air-conditioned locations.
- Minimize direct exposure to the sun. Sunburn reduces your body's ability to dissipate heat.
- Check on older, sick, or frail people who may need help responding to the heat.



The National Weather Service offices in Nebraska issue some or all of the following heat-related products as conditions warrant.

Excessive Heat Warning—Take Action! An Excessive Heat Warning is issued within 12 hours of the onset of extremely dangerous heat conditions. The general rule of thumb for this Warning is when the maximum heat index temperature is expected to be 105° or higher and the minimum heat index is above 75° for a minimum of 48 hours. If you don't take precautions immediately when conditions are extreme, you may become seriously ill or even die.



Excessive Heat Watches—Be Prepared! Heat watches are issued when conditions are favorable for an excessive heat event in the next 24 to 72 hours. A Watch is used when the risk of a heat wave has increased but its occurrence and timing is still uncertain.

Heat Advisory—Take Action! A Heat Advisory is issued within 12 hours of the onset of extremely dangerous heat conditions. The general rule of thumb for this Advisory is when the maximum heat index temperature is expected to be 100° or higher. Take precautions to avoid heat illness. If you don't take precautions, you may become seriously ill or even die.



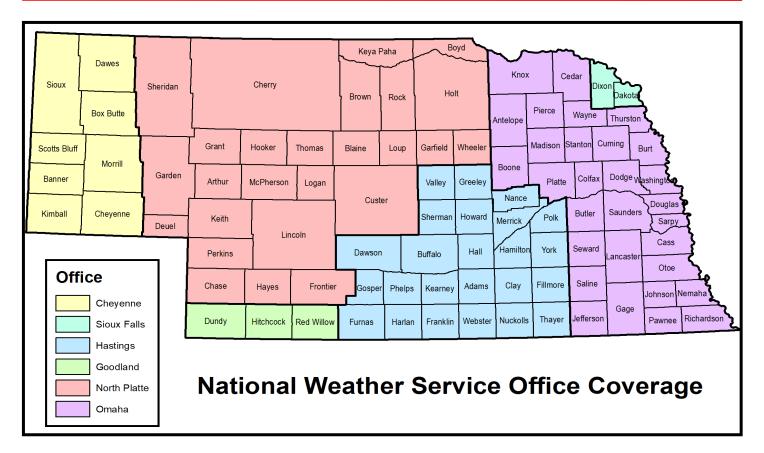




National Weather Service Offices Serving Nebraska



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<u>Panhandle</u>

Cheyenne, WY

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www.weather.gov/cheyenne nws.cheyenne@noaa.gov (307) 772-2468

South Central

Hastings

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www.weather.gov/hastings nws.hastings@noaa.gov (402) 462-4287

West and North Central North Platte

5250 E. Lee Bird Drive North Platte, NE 69101

www.weather.gov/northplatte nws.northplatte@noaa.gov (308) 532-4936

East

Omaha/Valley

6707 N. 288th Street Valley, NE 68064

www.weather.gov/omaha nws.omaha@noaa.gov (402) 359-9443

Extreme Southwest

Goodland, KS

920 Armory Road Goodland, KS 67735

www.weather.gov/goodland nws.goodland@noaa.gov (785) 899-7119

Extreme Northeast

Sioux Falls, SD

26 Weather Lane Sioux Falls, SD 57104

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