

Summer Seasonal Hazard Outlook

August 2017 Update

Watch
Office



Current as of: July 28, 2017

Scheduled Update: August 28, 2017

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Executive Summary

Summer 2017

Seasonal Hazard Outlook

This outlook provides a review of those topics covered in the Watch Office's *Summer Seasonal Hazard Outlook*. The following updates have been assembled after careful review of information made available by federal, state, and local partners.

Overall Assessment

There have been no significant changes regarding the topics of interest with one exception; on Lake Erie, where the bloom is forecast to be on par with the 2013 HAB, cells in the western basin and Sandusky Bay are present.

Weather

NWS anticipates above normal temperatures with near-average precipitation through October. Neutral El Niño/La Niña conditions will persist through the fall, creating normal weather patterns. While the peak of severe weather season is early July; damaging winds, tornadoes, and flooding will be possible over the coming months.

High Profile Events

There are multiple scheduled events that provide opportunity for targeting of attendees. DHS stresses the importance of public vigilance and awareness.

Harmful Algal Bloom

Summer weather, most notably sunlight, precipitation, and wind, will continue to contribute towards the HAB trend. There are currently no impacts to public water systems. There are no active elevated advisories for state-monitored bodies of water. On Lake Erie, where the bloom is forecast to be on par with the 2013 HAB, cells in the western basin and Sandusky Bay are present.

Public Health

July has seen a continuation of the opiate epidemic impacting emergency departments across the state. Also, there is no significant changes in the Zika Virus (four travel-related cases) or Notifiable Avian Influenza environments (none identified).

Drought and Wildfire

July rainfall contributed towards closing the deficit of rainfall across northern Ohio. No current deficits exist in Ohio. Normal conditions for fire potential are present across the entire state



Weather

Summer 2017

Seasonal Hazard Outlook

The NWS expects near average precipitation through October with above average temperatures. There are no La Nina/El Nino conditions ongoing and none are expected to develop at this time.

Temperature and Precipitation

- The Climate Prediction Center is expecting above average temperatures expected during August, September, and October.
- Over this same time period, near average precipitation expected.
- There is a minor flood risk in the Wabash and Maumee river basins, with the highest potential of flooding likely to be due to individual convective rain storms.

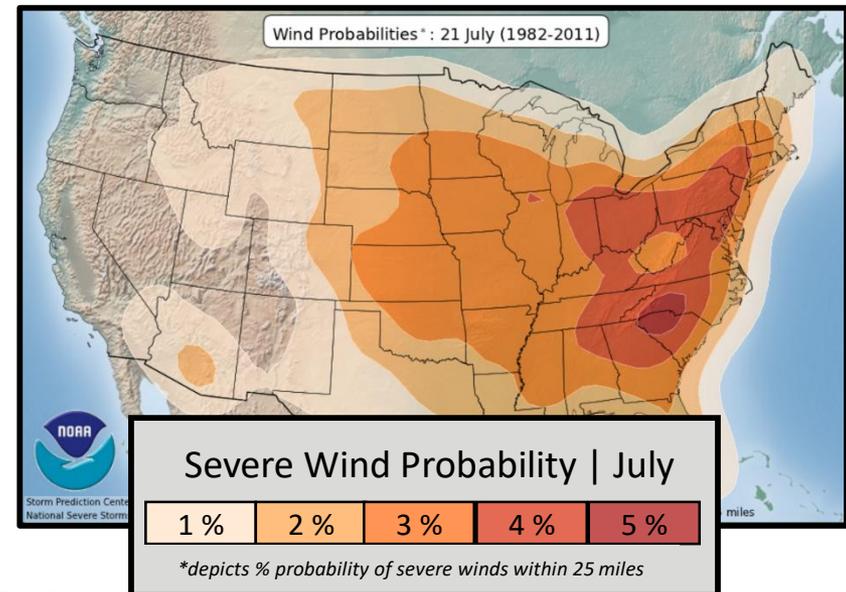
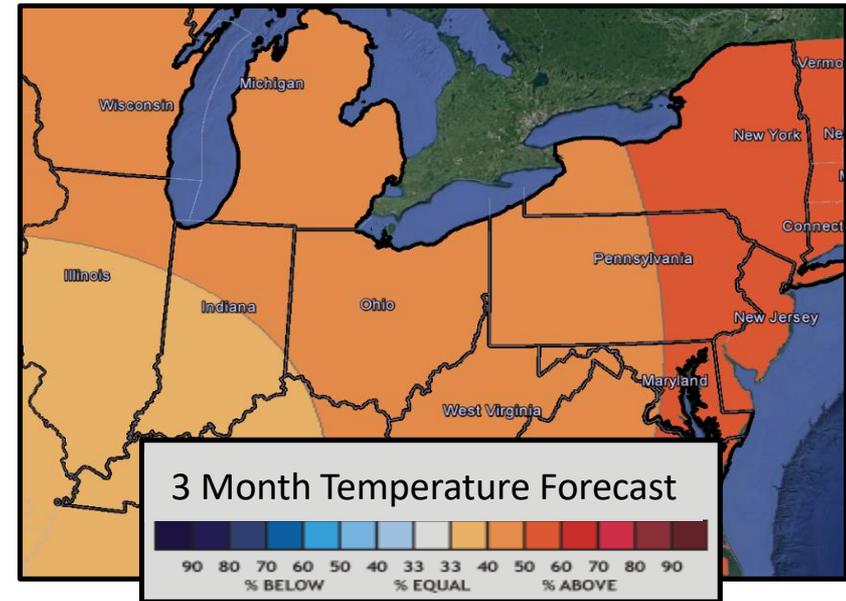
Seasonal Hazards

- The highest potential for severe wind-producing storms occurs throughout the month of July. The probability of such storms will continue to decrease through August and September.
- The probability of tornadoes will continue to decrease as the summer progresses.

La Nina/El Nino

- The Climate Prediction Center reports neutral conditions ongoing at this time, leading to normal weather patterns for the season.

Source: National Weather Service





High Profile Events

Summer 2017

Seasonal Hazard Outlook

The Watch Office monitors events that meet a combination of the following criteria:

- 50,000 (+) attendees
- Specific operational planning by the host
- National/international television viewing
- Politically or socially charged
- Significant law enforcement and/or media coverage
- DHS National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin

High Profile Events August 2017			
Event	Dates	Location	Map
Ohio State Fair	Jul 26 – Aug 6	Columbus	1
Pro Football Hall of Fame	Jul 23 – Aug 6	Canton	2
Dublin Irish Festival	Aug 4 – 6	Dublin	3

All County fairs, regardless of size, will be monitored by the Watch Office should the operational situation arise, or at the County EMA's request.





Harmful Algal Bloom

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Elevated Recreational Public Advisories at Beaches or Access Points

Source: ODH



Public Water Systems

- No finished water samples have exceeded Ohio EPA's action level.
- For samples meeting Ohio EPA's threshold, the following actions are taken:
 - Ohio EMA is notified
 - Contiguous systems are notified
 - Additional collection and testing of distribution samples

Ohio Beaches & Water Access Points

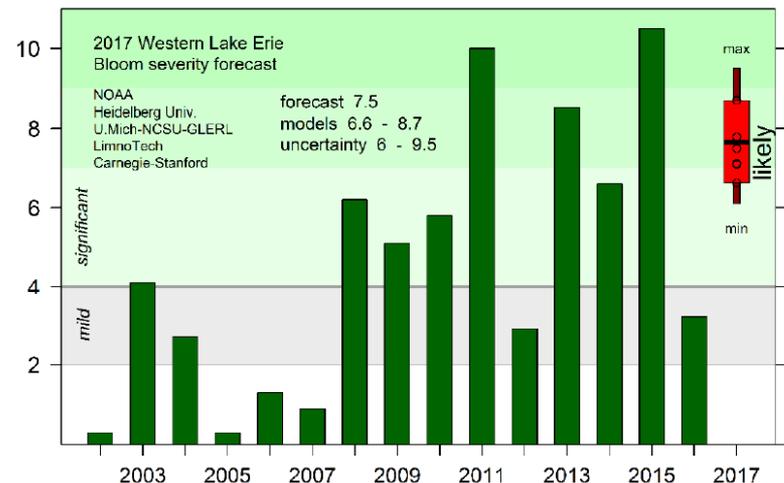
- Ohio EPA reports no current Elevated Recreational Public Health Advisories at two state-monitored bodies of water.

Lake Erie

- NOAA forecasts the 2017 HAB to be smaller than 2011, 2015, and possibly 2013; but is projected to be larger than last year's bloom.
- During the Lake Erie HAB season (beginning late July), [NOAA bulletins](#) are published twice weekly during a bloom.

Lake Erie Predicted Bloom Severity

Source: NOAA





Public Health

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Seasonal Hazard Outlook

July has seen a continuation of the opiate epidemic impacting emergency department (ED) operations. Also, there is no change in the Zika Virus or Notifiable Avian Influenza environments.

Opioid Epidemic

- ODH has provided the number of drug-related emergency room visits through June as reflected in the graph. The month of June witnessed a 4.7% decline in drug-related ER visits.
- Drug related ED visits are based on information provided as the chief complaint by the patient, which may pertain to:
 - unintentional drug overdoses,
 - intentional drug overdoses/suicide attempts,
 - accidental overdose of everyday medications (e.g. acetaminophen or ibuprofen),
 - other related conditions such as withdrawal.

Zika Virus

- ODH reports 4 cases of Zika Virus in 2017. All cases are from travelers returning from affected areas.

Notifiable Avian Influenza

- There have been no identified Notifiable Avian Influenza cases in Ohio in 2017.

Source: ODH, USDA

Drug-Related ED Visits
Source: Ohio Department of Health



Four Major Flyways
in North America
Source: USDA

Atlantic
Mississippi
Central
Pacific



Drought & Wildfire

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Seasonal Hazard Outlook

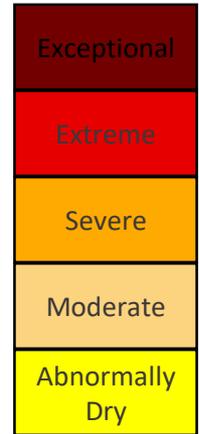
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Drought

- The U.S. Drought Monitor is currently not reporting any drought condition in Ohio



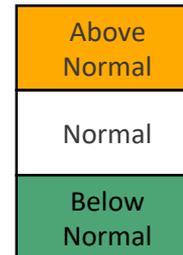
U.S. Drought Monitor Map and Climate Divisions of Ohio Growing Season



Wildfire

- The National Interagency Fire Center's Predictive Services forecasts normal fire potential for Ohio during August.

National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook Current as of: July 20



Source: U.S. Drought Monitor, National Interagency Fire Center