

# Types of Watches/Warnings (summer)

- **Watches** (usually issued with 2-6 hrs lead time)
  - **Severe Thunderstorm Watch**
    - Severe thunderstorms possible in the next few hours
    - Large hail, damaging winds and heavy rain possible
    - Minimal tornado threat.. but they're still possible!
  - **Tornado Watch**
    - Severe thunderstorms with tornadoes possible in the next few hours
    - Large hail, damaging winds, heavy rain likely with storms, along with a good potential for tornadoes
- **Warnings** (usually issued with a few minutes to one hour lead time)
  - **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** (10 – 60 minutes lead time)
    - Severe thunderstorms have developed or imminent.. Take cover!
    - Large hail, damaging winds and heavy rain likely
    - Minimal tornado threat.. but they're still possible!
  - **Tornado Warning** (0 -15 minutes lead time)
    - Tornado has been sighted, or is very likely based on radar
    - Take cover.. You may only have a few minutes to react

# Types of Watches/Warnings (winter)

- **Watches** (usually issued with 24 - 36 hrs lead time)
  - **Winter Storm Watch**
    - Severe winter weather possible within the next 24 to 48 hrs
    - Heavy snow, blowing snow, or freezing rain possible
    - May be accompanied by strong winds and cold wind chills
- **Warnings** (usually issued with 12-24 hrs lead time)
  - **Snowfall Warning**
    - 10 cm of snow expected within 12 hrs, or 15 cm within 24 hrs
    - Winds below 40 km/h (blowing snow a lesser concern)
  - **Blizzard Warning**
    - Poor visibilities (< 1 km) in snow and/or blowing snow for 4 hrs or more
  - **Freezing Rain Warning**
    - At least one hour of freezing rain expected, or enough to disrupt travel
  - **Winter Storm Warning**
    - usually combination of snow and freezing rain
  - **Wind Chill Warning**
    - Wind chills of -40 or lower expected for at least 3 hrs duration

# Getting the weather information you need...

- Environment Canada Web site: [www.weatheroffice.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca)
- Weatheradio (in certain areas) Winnipeg - **162.55 MHZ**
- Telephone – Automated (available in both English and French)
  - Winnipeg **983-2050** English
  - Brandon **727-5533** English
- Telephone – Consultation with a meteorologist (5 AM to 9 PM)  
Cost is \$2.99/minute
  - **1-900-565-5555** English
  - **1-900-565-4455** French
- Many radio and television stations broadcast weather information, - but not all the time – might not always be up-to-date
- Cable television such as: Shaw 48, The Weather Network

# http://weatheroffice.gc.ca

**Weatheroffice**  
www.weatheroffice.gc.ca

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## Lynn Lake

### Currently

Observed at: Lynn Lake Airport 1:27 PM CDT Wednesday 24 October 2007



### Light Freezing Rain

Temperature	0°C
Pressure/Tendency	101.3 kPa —
Visibility	1 km
Humidity	99 %
Wind Chill	-4
Dewpoint	0°C
Wind	SE 13 km/h

### Yesterday

Max Temp.	3.9°C
Min Temp.	0.3°C
Precip Total	1.0 mm

### Regional Normals

Max Temp.	0°C
Min Temp.	-7°C
<a href="#">Record Values</a>	

### Today

Sunrise	8:35
Sunset	18:22
Moonrise	17:28
Moonset	6:20

### 5 Day Forecast from Environment Canada

Wednesday	Wednesday night	Thursday
 <b>High 5°C</b> POP 60% <b>Chance of rain showers or flurries</b>	 <b>Low 2°C</b> POP 40% <b>Chance of showers</b>	 <b>High 5°C</b> POP 40% <b>Chance of rain showers or flurries</b>
Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 <b>High -2°C</b> <b>Low -2°C</b> POP 60% <b>Chance of flurries</b>	 <b>High 0°C</b> <b>Low -10°C</b> <b>Sunny</b>	 <b>High 1°C</b> <b>Low -5°C</b> <b>Cloudy</b>

[These icons are a summary. See complete text below](#)

- [Imperial Units](#)
- [Past 24 Hour Conditions](#)
- [24 Hour Trends Graph](#)
- [Another Forecast ?](#)

### Text Forecast from Environment Canada

**Lynn Lake: Issued 11.00 AM CDT Wednesday 24 October 2007**

<b>Today</b>	Cloudy. 60 percent chance of rain showers or flurries. Wind becoming southeast 20 km/h early this afternoon. High plus 5.
<b>Tonight</b>	Cloudy. 40 percent chance of showers late this evening. Low plus 2.
<b>Thursday</b>	Sunny with cloudy periods. Becoming cloudy with sunny periods in the afternoon with 40 percent chance of rain showers later in the afternoon and of flurries in the evening. Wind becoming west 40 km/h gusting to 60 in the morning. High plus 5.
<b>Friday</b>	Cloudy with 60 percent chance of flurries. Low minus 2. High minus 2.
<b>Saturday</b>	Sunny. Low minus 10. High zero.
<b>Sunday</b>	Cloudy. Low minus 5. High plus 1.

Current weather and forecasts for the next 5 days all on one page

Current weather usually updated hourly

Forecast weather usually updated 3 times per day or when significant changes occur



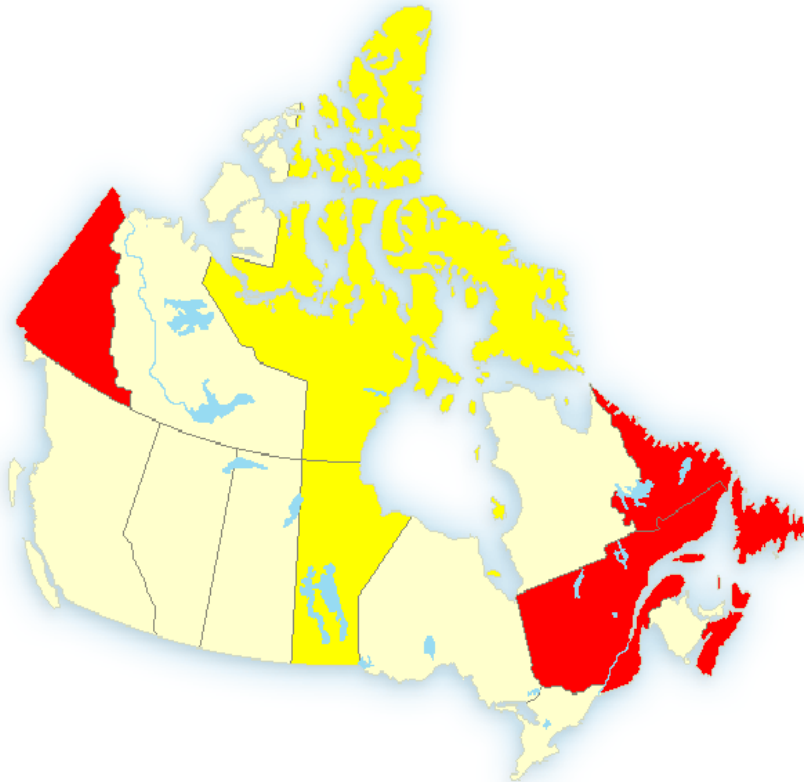
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### Public Weather Warnings for Canada

Public Warnings Marine Warnings Special Weather Statements

Click on a coloured province or territory for the latest warning.



Warning No warning or watch

# Watch/Warnings on the Web site

If watch in effect, province shown in yellow.

If warning in effect, province shown in red

Click on province to see which regions are affected.

# Weatheradio Canada

- Commercial free 24 hour a day all weather radio station on the “VHF Public Service Band”.
  - 162.400 162.475 162.550 MHz
- Requires a special receiver (\$30-\$100).
- Most models can automatically alert you when Warnings are issued for your area.
- Alternating English and French broadcasts



# e-Weather Service

- Automatic distribution of EC weather warnings to your email account or any specified account
- Can access real time weather warnings via email at home, office, Blackberry, etc
- FREE real time delivery of EC weather warning  
Sign-up at: <http://weatheroffice.pyr.ec.gc.ca/e-products/>
- E-warning service also available through  
The Weather Network (\$3.00/month fee)  
[http://www.theweathernetwork.com/weather\\_centre/wcmobile](http://www.theweathernetwork.com/weather_centre/wcmobile)
- Good way to stay alerted to severe weather

**Monitoring the weather  
yourself at the local level**

# Setting up your own local weather station

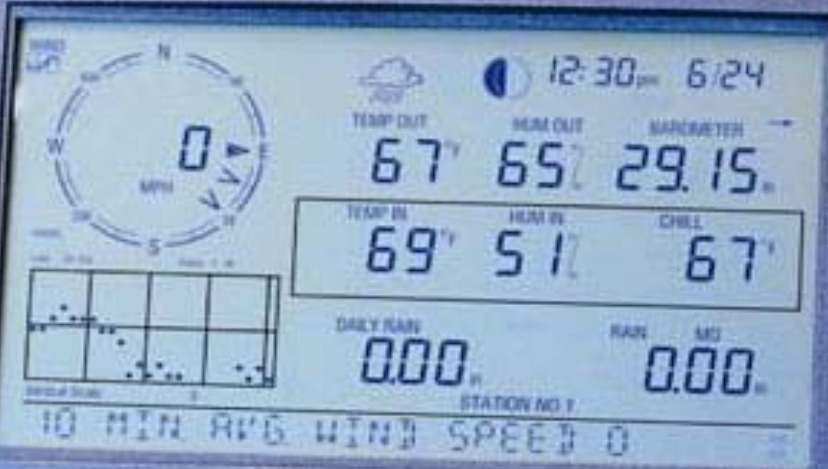
- Fully functional and inexpensive weather stations providing continuous real time weather information
- Can get a good reliable weather station for only \$500
- Can easily set up at a local municipal building (school, fire station, agriculture site, etc)
- Can hook up to computer and internet to post weather information online in real time
- Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) currently installing hundreds of local weather stations across Prairies ([“Weatherbug” project](#))







DAVIS



Vantage PRO2

- HEAT
- TEMP
- DEW
- HUM
- CHILL
- WIND
- SOLAR
- RAIN<sub>hour</sub>
- UV
- RAIN<sub>1hr</sub>
- ET
- BAR
- LAMPS
- TIME
- FORECAST
- UNITS
- GRAPH
- CLEAR
- BELOW
- SET
- ALARM
- DONE





ambient weather

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

10:40am



winds from the NNE (13°)

**6 km/hr**

Temperature

**0.4°**

Dew Point

**-1.3°**

Humidity

**88%**

Pressure  
(rising)

**1016.9 m**

Wind Chill

**-1.6°**

**WEATHERCENTRAL**

[PJ School Weather Website](#)

# Environment Canada

## Safety and Security of Canadians

- Every year many Canadians die or are injured due to weather, or weather related accidents
- Losses in Canada due to **extreme weather events** from 1987 to 1998 (estimated by MSC)
  - 70–100 lives lost
  - displacement of over 58,000 people
  - insurable losses \$3 billion
  - economic losses \$7–10 billion
- Severe weather losses growing every year
- Knowing what to do when the weather threatens reduces your risk, and can mitigate losses
- Have a plan, be ready to use it

# Emergency Planning for Weather

- **Mitigation** – proper planning and maintenance of infrastructure, effective building codes, etc
- **Preparedness** – becoming educated on severe weather, knowing where to get up-to-date weather information quickly, conveniently; having emergency plans in place and knowing what to do
- **Response and Recovery** – Modern society expects advanced notice, quick response, and quick recovery from adverse weather (important for municipalities to be aware of weather conditions, and respond quickly and effectively to weather extremes)



# Weather Risk

Do you know your “**weather risk**”?

- Conduct a weather risk analysis for your area
  - What are the most likely severe weather events that may affect your community? (flood, blizzard, tornado?)
  - What would be a worse case scenario due to weather?
- What are your vulnerabilities if affected?
  - What will be the impact of various weather events be on your community?
    - **Weather incident**: Weather that causes inconvenience, but can be responded to with normal resources (e.g. black ice, minor snowfall)
    - **Weather emergency**: Weather that causes disruption to most of the public (e.g. snowstorm that closes roads, schools, etc)
    - **Weather disaster**: major weather event that leads to significant damage and/or loss of life (major flood, tornado, etc)



# Safety tips for home and work

- Some sources of safety/planning tips are...
  - Public Safety Canada at: [www.publicsafety.gc.ca](http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca)
  - Safe Canada at: [www.safecanada.ca](http://www.safecanada.ca)
  - Get Prepared at: [www.getprepared.ca](http://www.getprepared.ca) (72 hr plan)
  - Environmental Emergencies: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/ee-ue/>
  - Manitoba EMO: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/emo/>
- Consider an emergency planning section on municipal website to access these links and other relevant emergency information (one stop shop)

# Ultimately...

- You are responsible for your own safety and for those in your charge: forecasters cannot foresee all severe weather and cannot deliver it to you specifically
- Learn to recognize severe weather and how to prepare for it
- Have a plan of action for community to deal with severe weather
- Don't wait for a disaster to make a plan!

# Closing comments

- We live in a climate with extremes that can impact our society, economy and environment
- Important for communities to know their weather risks, and have an emergency plan to deal with extreme weather
- Knowledge is power – know where to get weather information, quickly and conveniently
- Be prepared - have emergency plans in place, conduct practice drills, ensure community organizations are aware of weather risks and have their own plans

**Thank you!**

**Comments?**

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