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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-30
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
515 PM EDT MON JUL 2 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
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FROM: JAMES E. LEE
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: NEW ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT WEATHER SERVICE OPERATION
MANUAL...CHAPTER C-11...EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 5 2001

ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5 2001...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST
OFFICES WILL IMPLEMENT A MODIFIED WEATHER SERVICE OPERATIONS MANUAL /WSOM/
CHAPTER C-11...ZONE FORECAST PRODUCT /ZFP/. THE NEW MANUAL SETS POLICY
FOR AN IMPROVED ZFP IN A MODIFIED FORMAT.

THIS POLICY MANUAL EXTENSIVELY CHANGES THE ZFP. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- THE DAY-THREE FORECAST HAS BEEN BROKEN INTO TWO 12-HOUR
SEGMENTS...RESULTING IN AN ADDITIONAL 24 HOURS OF DETAILED FORECAST
ELEMENTS.
- SNOWFALL ACCUMULATION FORECASTS ARE EXTENDED TO 36 HOURS.
- WIND FORECASTS ARE EXTENDED TO 36 HOURS.
- USE OF MID-PROBABILITIES OF PRECIPITATION /POPS/ /40-60 PERCENT/ IN THE
FIRST 12 HOURS OF THE FORECAST FOR NON-CONVECTIVE PRECIPITATION IS
DISCOURAGED.
- VISIBILITY RESTRICTIONS /FOR EXAMPLE...FOG...BLOWING SNOW...BLOWING
DUST...ETC./ ARE INCLUDED IN THE ZFP WHEN FORECAST TO BE LESS THAN OR
EQUAL TO 1/4 MILE.
- THE FOUR-TO-SEVEN DAY FORECAST SECTION IS BROKEN INTO 24-HOUR
SEGMENTS...VALID 12 MIDNIGHT TO 12 MIDNIGHT /LOCAL/.

THE 7-DAY ZFP WILL CONTINUE TO BE ROUTINELY ISSUED AT LEAST TWICE DAILY.
OTHER ISSUANCES WILL BE ON AN EVENT-DRIVEN BASIS. NO COMMUNICATIONS
CHANGES ARE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE IMPROVED ZFP.

A PRELIMINARY COPY OF CHAPTER C-11 APPENDIX A CAN BE FOUND AT THE
FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESS /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/C11.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/c11.pdf)

THE CHAPTER C-11...IN ITS ENTIRETY /INCLUDING APPENDIX A AND B/...WILL BE AVAILABLE BY JULY 31 2001 FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE...UNDER PART C /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WSOM.NWS.NOAA.GOV/](http://wsom.nws.noaa.gov/)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS CHANGE...PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IN SILVER SPRING MARYLAND:

DOUG YOUNG AT 301-713-1970 EXT. 113 OR JANNIE GIBSON AT 301-713-0462 EXT. 135.

NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATIONS/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notifications/archive)

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