

LATE WEEK WEATHER TRENDS FOR THE NORTHERN MIDDLE ATLANTIC, NEW YORK & NEW ENGLAND

FAX-ALERT WEATHER SERVICE, LLC

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**PATTERN TRENDS SUGGEST FEBRUARY 2015 IS HEADING TOWARD ONE OF THE ALL
TIME COLDEST**

**YES THERE WILL BE SOME BRIEF PATTERN RELAXATION PERIODS, MOST INDUCED
BY STORM ACTIVITY, BUT THE POTENTIAL FOR ARCTIC INTRUSIONS WILL MORE
THAN MAKE UP FOR ANY EASING OF THE COLD FROM TIME TO TIME...**

**AND WHILE THERE IS NEVER 100% CERTAINTY IN THIS BUSINESS, WHAT CONTINUES
TO BE A VERY STABLE HEMISPHERIC PATTERN WOULD HAVE TO PRETTY MUCH
COLLAPSE PRIOR TO THE END OF THE MONTH TO REVERSE THE TEMPERATURE
TREND...**

**STORM-WISE A VERY COMPLEX 3 DAY PERIOD OF SNOW OR MIXED PRECIPITATION
POTENTIAL GETS UNDERWAY SATURDAY AND CONTINUES THROUGH MONDAY...**

**THIS DOES NOT MEAN 3 OR 4 DAYS OF SNOW!!! BUT IT DOES MEAN THE POTENTIAL
EXIST ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE NORTHEAST FOR WIDESPREAD SIGNIFICANT
SNOW ACCUMULATIONS WITH THE MOST INTERESTING TIME FRAME BEING THE
SUNDAY / MONDAY PERIOD...**

**THERE ARE SO MANY MOVING PARTS WITH THIS NEXT WINTER STORM OR WINTER
STORMS THREAT, THAT FORECASTERS PROMISING A HIGH CONFIDENT SNOWFALL
PREDICTION TODAY SHOULD RELAX A BIT AND GIVE THIS SETUP TIME TO START
SHOWING ITSELF MORE CLEARLY!**

FEBRUARY TEMPERATURE TRENDS

Let's cut right to the chase and keep this short and sweet. The February pattern across the Northeast sector of the country is locked into a configuration that when all is said and done **could very well produce one of the coldest February periods in more than 20 years** (if not a whole lot longer than 20 years).

The weak El Nino is exactly as it was expected to be by early February and the North Pacific pattern is in a very stable configuration that is very favorable for the delivery of arctic air into the Northeast sector of the country. This is very similar to what provided the very cold weather to the country last year, just the core is displaced much further east this winter, as I had expected it to be!

Looking at the overall temperature anomaly pattern over the next 2 weeks, there is very strong support for the most excessive cold temperature anomalies to exist from NY on eastward across New England. The entire Northeast will easily average colder than normal, but I do not think I have ever seen the NY / New England areas modeled to

average so cold over a 2 week period since I have been forecasting Northeast temperature patterns (about 30 years' worth of forecasting).

Even if the modeling is too extreme, the 2 week period will still average much colder than normal.

A bitter cold air mass has settled across the region over the past 24 hours and it will lead to a solidly colder than normal run of days into the middle of next week before the mother-load of arctic cold tries to come southward late next week or next weekend.

Special Note – For clients that receive my 10-day temperature / HDD day information, the scripts I use to extract and then process the 10-day min/max projections cannot handle the degree of cold being modeled in later next week and are showing cold, but less cold outcome than what reality will likely be once we get there. That is a convoluted way of saying the modeled temperatures for the late next week period are likely nowhere nearly as cold as they should be and everyone in the energy business should assume energy use late next week and beyond will likely be much greater than what is being shown in today's update.

DISRUPTIVE WEATHER OUTLOOK

OVERVIEW: I wish I had a simple answer today about how the weekend and early next week winter storm events will play out. There are so many moving parts in the storm generation pattern from the eastern Pacific on across the Rockies into the Great Lakes & Midwest regions; it is likely that the model guidance is going to struggle with storm center placement and intensity until sometime Saturday when we are only 24 to 48 hours out from the main event.

Saturday - We are going to be dealing with a surge of moist air trying to ride up and over our cold dome Saturday. This will likely produce a zone of accumulating snows from NY on across parts of New England. It does not look to be a big deal and significant snows are not likely to extend southward past NYC, and may not get anywhere near NYC, southeastern NY and parts of coastal CT, RI and southeastern Massachusetts. There is no real storm associated with any snow activity Saturday so I do not expect a truly widespread disruptive event to unfold. Right now I favor only a chance of some light snow with little or no meaningful accumulations from far southeastern NY to NYC/LI, coastal CT, RI and southeastern Massachusetts. In these areas a light coating is the most likely outcome. The area that has the best chance to see a general 3 to 5 inch snowfall Saturday runs from central NY on eastward across east-central NY (generally the Capital District and points north) on across southern and central VT, southern and central NH and southern Maine, as well as the far northern Berkshire eastward across the northern third of Massachusetts.

North of this main snow band from far northeastern NY on across northern VT, northern NH and northern Maine I expect a general 2 to 4 inches Saturday with some spotty terrain enhanced higher totals.

Southward across interior CT, interior southeastern NY, south of Albany, southern Massachusetts along and just north of the I-90 corridor to Boston, some light 1 to 3 inch accumulations may occur.

The bottom line is Saturday is not expected to be truly connected to any major winter storm event modeled in the Sunday / Monday period.

Sunday - Monday: This period holds the promise for substantial snows across parts of the Northeast and New England regions, but the complexity of the setup cautions trying to be too specific. Once again there will be multiple features fighting for dominance. During Sunday another surge of moist air will try to lift northward over the dome of cold air sitting across NY and New England. Areas of snow will likely break out but whether or not it turns into a moderate or heavy snowfall remains to be seen. I think several inches of snow are possible (**generally 3 to 5 or 3 to 6 inches**) anywhere from the greater NYC area on northward across NY and New England. I would expect the best snow potential to once again exist across interior eastern NY, interior Southern New England (northern CT & northern RI on northward into northern Massachusetts) and then much of VT/NH/ME and Upstate NY.

The chance of widespread disruptive snows across eastern PA/NJ/LI/coastal CT, much of RI and southeastern Massachusetts does not seem high Sunday due to not only the best moisture feed setting up north of these areas, but also the chance milder air aloft could allow mixed precip or even some rain to be the main precip type.

If widespread moderate to heavy snow is going to materialize from the evolving pattern, it would be the Sunday night through Monday period that holds the most promise. It is during this period a storm system will try to consolidate just offshore and produce an expanding precipitation shield across parts of eastern NY and much of New England. There is a chance it may be close enough to warm upper levels enough to produce mixed precip or icing across areas from northern NJ on across far southeastern NY, the NYC/LI areas, southern CT, much of RI and southeastern Massachusetts with the best potential for heavy snow running from northern CT, interior eastern NY, much of Massachusetts from Boston north and west, southern VT & southern NH and southern Maine.

Right now this does not look like a legitimate Middle Atlantic winter storm threat!

I cannot stress enough that while there are some wild snow predictions out there, calling for 3 days of snow is not something I would expect and I would tread lightly given the convoluted, complex nature of the setup. **When all is said and done, it may well produce big snows across parts of eastern NY, Southern New England a good deal of central New England, but uncertainties abound from storm placement to rain / snow lines.** Early forecasts in these types of setups can and often do lead to the field of meteorology taking a hit as the general public will jump all over changes in the heavy snow zone that might have been predicted 3 days earlier.

Here is the message I want to leave you with! Portions of interior NY, interior Southern New England, central and southern VT & NH and southern Maine have a chance of seeing a few inches of snow Saturday. Then a more impressive snow event will likely evolve across parts of eastern NY, parts, if not much of Southern New England and much of central and southern VT/NH/Maine Sunday into Monday. There is a significant chance of

heavy snow totals within the areas listed above, but there is also a chance rain or mixed precip types could alter the snow area significantly, especially from southeastern NY on across coastal Southern New England.

I am sorry this sounds very ill-defined and wishy-washy, but to indicate otherwise and call this a high confidence forecast would be lying to you.

I will be on the road later today and Saturday, but will try to add some clarity to the situation with a couple of brief, refining storm messages with a more significant one early Sunday afternoon before the main event tries to unfold.

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