

# Consider Weather Forecasts Beyond One Week

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As we plan our week's activities, we often turn to the seven-day weather forecast. Could we plan even further into the future? Are long-range forecasts for next week or month worth considering? NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC) have forecasters working on it.

Longer term forecasts start with the ability to interpret certain phenomena that influence weather beyond the typical weekly forecast. El Niño and La Niña (aka the El Niño Southern Oscillation, or ENSO) can indicate climatic conditions months in advance. The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) provides

insight into the average weekly weather patterns for the coming season. CPC produces long-range forecasts of temperature and precipitation by using climate models that predict ENSO and MJO events with reasonable confidence. CPC's extended outlooks highlight the probability of warmer or colder than normal temperatures, or if rainfall is expected to be above- or below-normal. This allows us to be proactive in our planning of critical activities like fertilizing, planting and harvesting crops.

### Recent and Current Conditions

Vermont has experienced near average temperatures in June and has had near average precipitation in the same timeframe.

While the US Drought

Monitor (USDM) map from June 12th shows no drought conditions in Vermont, some areas in southern New Hampshire, southeastern Maine, and northern Massachusetts are abnormally dry. The Seasonal Drought Outlook for the summer season shows favorable conditions persisting in the Northeast. However, extreme to exceptional drought conditions are expected to persist in the southwestern US. You can help inform the US Drought Monitor by submitting reports of current drought conditions and impacts at <http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/submitreport/>.

### 8 to 14-Day and 1-Month Forecasts

NOAA's 8- to 14-day forecast for June 26-July 2

(made June 18th) indicates above normal temperatures are favored throughout Vermont. There is a slight lean towards below normal precipitation for the state over this same time period.

The forecast for June (made May 31) indicates equal chance for above, below or normal temperatures for the month. Below normal precipitation is slightly favored in the outlook for June. If this outlook is accurate, conditions could be slightly drier than normal. To view NOAA's most recent forecasts visit and select a forecast at: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

### Seasonal Forecasts

The seasonal forecast for Vermont is perhaps the most interesting. The outlook for the summer (June, July,

August) calls for above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation in Vermont.

### Ag Considerations

July is firmly in the growing season here in Vermont. It can be a busy time of weeding, re-seeding, grazing, harvesting and irrigating crops. When you look at the daily forecast, be proactive by also viewing the 8-14-day forecast to help schedule and prioritize your work activities. Consider using these longer term outlooks to make decisions faster and with more information.

Find our more! Visit USDA Northeast Climate Hub's website at <https://www.climatehubs.ocs.usda.gov/hubs/northeast>, or follow USDA Climate Hubs at @USDAClimateHubs.

