

# About WFO Paducah

## Background & Mission

The National Weather Service (NWS) is an agency under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Department of Commerce (DOC). “The National Weather Service provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy. NWS data and products form a national information database and infrastructure which can be used by other governmental agencies, the private sector, the public, and the global community.”

This mission is carried out by a highly trained workforce amidst a network of weather offices located throughout the United States and its territories. Through this network, the National Weather Service provides data to several user communities around the clock. Information is made available to the private sector through such outlets as the Family of Services, National Digital Forecast Database, and Emergency Managers Weather Information Network to meet specific and unique individual, corporate, and educational needs.

The National Weather Service offers:

- ✓ Warnings and Forecasts for Severe Weather, Winter Weather, Tropical Weather, and Non-Precipitation Hazards
- ✓ Warnings and Forecasts for the Aviation, Hydrologic, Fire Weather, and Marine Communities
- ✓ Digital and Text Forecasts for Various Weather Parameters through 7 Days
- ✓ Forecasts for General Weather Trends beyond 7 Days
- ✓ Incident-Specific Weather Forecasts for Emergency Management and Land Management Agencies in support of HAZMAT and Wild Fire Containment
- ✓ Multimedia Graphic Displays to assist in Decision Support Services
- ✓ High-Quality Data Collection and Distribution to the Private Sector
- ✓ Historical Databases of Climatological Phenomena
- ✓ Direct Line of Communication through Social Media and NWSChat

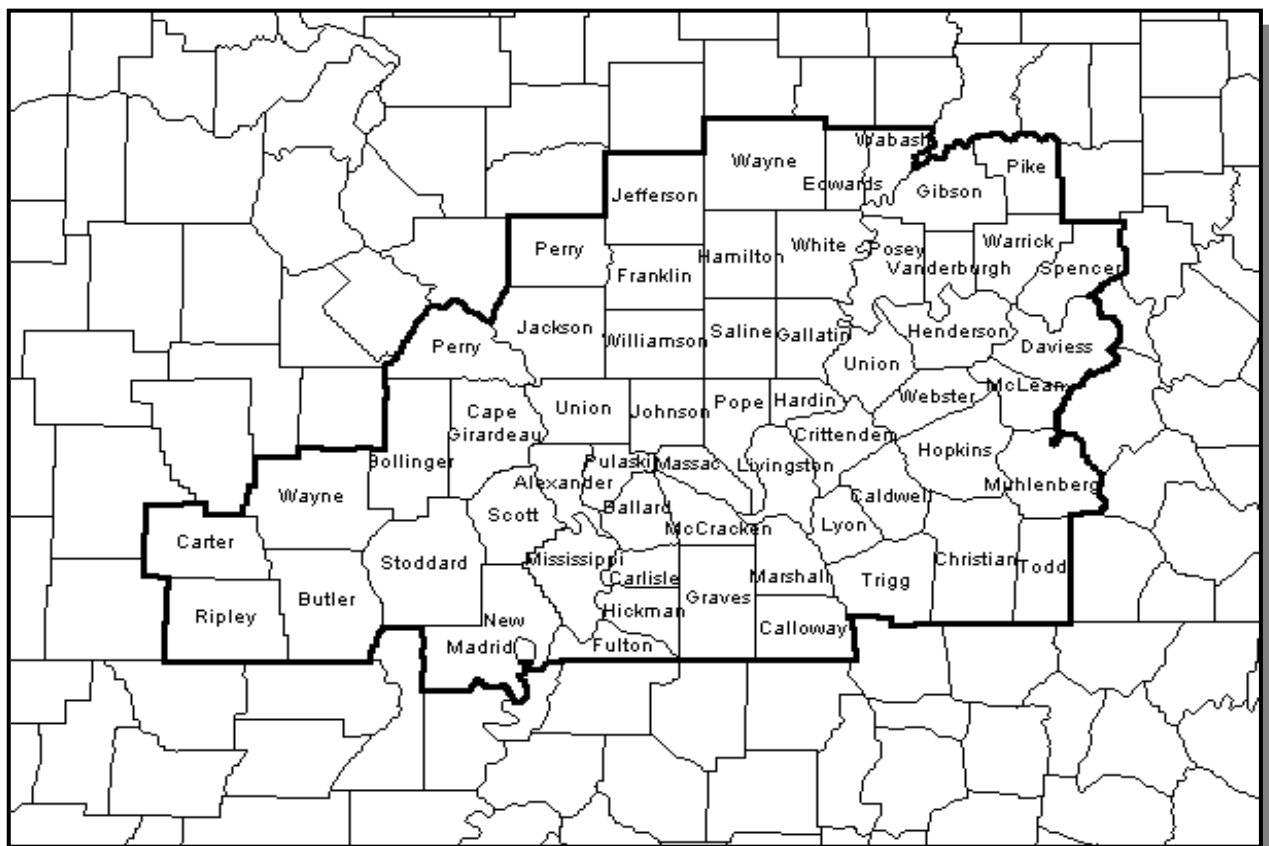
Within this framework, our priority for service to the nation is ***protection of life and property, and enhancement of the national economy***. For the National Weather Service in Paducah, this means constantly striving to provide timely and accurate weather services to best serve those who live, work, play, or vacation within our 58-county coverage area of southern Illinois, southwest Indiana, western Kentucky, and southeast Missouri. It’s our part in a larger effort to build a Weather-Ready Nation.

## NWS Office Configuration

Well over 100 National Weather Service Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) are strategically positioned throughout the United States. Each WFO is responsible for maintaining a multi-element forecast database within its forecast area for a running 7-day period. The always-current gridded forecast is assimilated into the larger National Digital Forecast Database—accessible to everyone. Each office also issues forecasts specific to various interests, such as aviation, hydrology, and fire weather. Additionally, the WFO disseminates a variety of hazardous weather watches, warnings, advisories, and statements for all counties within its designated warning area.

WFO Paducah's area of responsibility encompasses 58 counties across southeast Missouri, southern Illinois, southwest Indiana, and western Kentucky. Immediately surrounding WFO Paducah are other NWS offices located in Springfield and St. Louis, Missouri; Lincoln, Illinois; Indianapolis, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee; and Little Rock, Arkansas.

The following map details the county configuration for the Paducah County Warning and Forecast Area (CWFA). WFO Paducah's area of responsibility encompasses these counties:



## Zone Numbers & FIPS Codes

The following table contains Zone numbers and FIPS codes for all 58 counties within the WFO Paducah CWFA. These numbers are specific to each county in a particular state and are used to route various weather products to the appropriate users.

<i>County</i>	<i>Zone No.</i>	<i>FIPS Code</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Zone No.</i>	<i>FIPS Code</i>
I L L I N O I S			I N D I A N A		
Alexander	092	017003	Gibson	081	018051
Edwards	077	017047	Pike	082	018125
Franklin	081	017055	Posey	085	018129
Gallatin	087	017059	Spencer	088	018147
Hamilton	082	017065	Vanderburgh	086	018163
Hardin	091	017069	Warrick	087	018173
Jackson	084	017077	K E N T U C K Y		
Jefferson	075	017081	Ballard	004	021007
Johnson	089	017087	Caldwell	013	021033
Massac	094	017127	Calloway	009	021035
Perry	080	017145	Carlisle	003	021039
Pope	090	017151	Christian	017	021047
Pulaski	093	017153	Crittenden	010	021055
Saline	086	017165	Daviess	019	021059
Union	088	017181	Fulton	001	021075
Wabash	078	017185	Graves	006	021083
Wayne	076	017191	Henderson	018	021101
White	083	017193	Hickman	002	021105
Williamson	085	017199	Hopkins	016	021107
M I S S O U R I			Livingston	007	021139
Bollinger	086	029017	Lyon	011	021143
Butler	109	029023	Marshall	008	021157
Cape Girardeau	087	029031	McCracken	005	021145
Carter	107	029035	McLean	020	021149
Mississippi	112	029133	Muhlenberg	021	021177
New Madrid	114	029143	Todd	022	021219
Perry	076	029157	Trigg	012	021221
Ripley	108	029181	Union	014	021225
Scott	111	029201	Webster	015	021233
Stoddard	110	029207			
Wayne	100	029223			

## Contacting Our Team

The following tables provide numbers that may be used to contact WFO Paducah office personnel. To leave a message for a staff member, call (270) 744-6440 and enter the appropriate extension number after the prompt. The unlisted severe weather hotline should be used for emergency purposes only.

<b>THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM &amp; SUPPORT STAFF . . .</b>	
Steve Eddy, Meteorologist-In-Charge	642
Rick Shanklin, Warning Coordination Meteorologist	726
Pat Spoden, Science and Operations Officer	766
Ken Ludington, Information Technology Officer	486
Mary Lamm, Service Hydrologist	493
Operations Program Leader - Vacant	675
Brian Miller, Administrative Assistant	221
<b>THE OPERATIONS TEAM . . .</b>	
David Humphrey, Lead Forecaster	553
Greg Meffert, Lead Forecaster	551
Chris Noles, Lead Forecaster	554
Dan Spaeth, Lead Forecaster	559
Christine Wielgos, Lead Forecaster	574
David Blanchard, Forecaster	556
Ryan Presley, Forecaster	550
Kevin Smith, Forecaster	558
Rachel Trevino, Forecaster	552
Mike York, Forecaster	573
Sean Poulos, Forecaster	
Derrick Snyder, Forecaster	
Andy Lesage, Forecaster	
<b>THE ELECTRONICS TEAM . . .</b>	
Electronic Systems Analyst - Vacant	372
Pilar Trevino, Electronics Technician	381
Rich Melton, Electronics Technician	382

<b>OTHER CONTACT NUMBERS . . .</b>	
Administrative Number	(270) 744-6440
Fax Number	(270) 744-3828
Forecast Recording (Paducah)	(270) 744-6331
Forecast Recording (Evansville)	(812) 425-5549