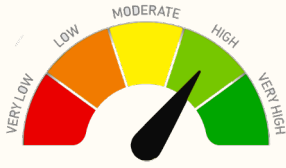


Short-Range Outlooks for North Carolina

Week 1: October 3 to 9

Forecast Confidence



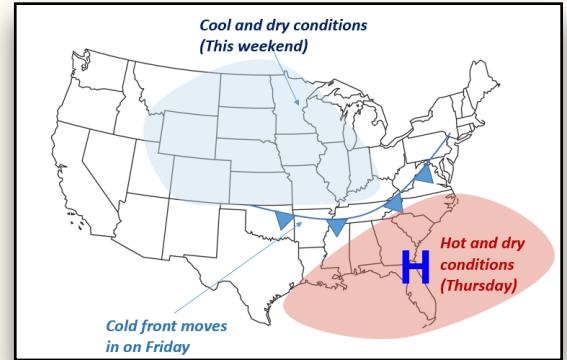
Confidence is high in Thursday's heat and the weekend cooldown. Depending on moisture availability, localized rainfall totals could be higher on Monday.



A Hot Start, a Cool Finish: Under a lingering high pressure system, high temperatures could reach the **upper 90s on Thursday**. On Friday, a cold front will move through and usher in fall-like weather for the weekend.

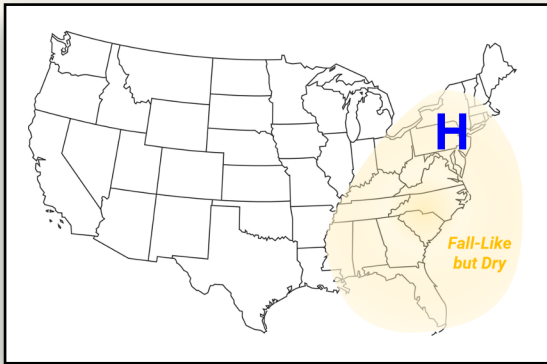


Rain Possible on Monday: Friday's cold front isn't likely to bring much rain. Another front moving through on Monday evening should have higher rain chances, but **amounts should be light** -- likely less than half an inch.



Forecast guidance from the National Weather Service

Week 2: October 10 to 16



Forecast guidance from the NWS Climate Prediction Center

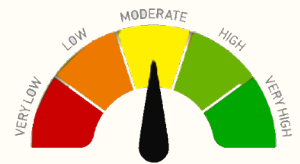


Seasonable Temperatures: High pressure is set to return across the eastern US, but located farther to our north this week, meaning near-normal temperatures with highs in the 70s and lows in the 50s.



Rain Stays Away: Another week of high pressure means we'll struggle to see much of any precipitation. By this point, it's likely that **drought conditions will spread** across most of the state as streamflows and soil moisture levels continue to decline.

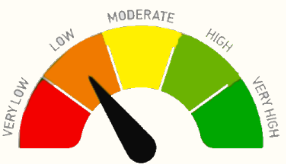
Forecast Confidence



Exactly where that high pressure sets up and how long it lingers will determine how cool our temperatures stay, or whether we warm up again by the middle of the month.

Weeks 3-4: October 17 to 30

Forecast Confidence



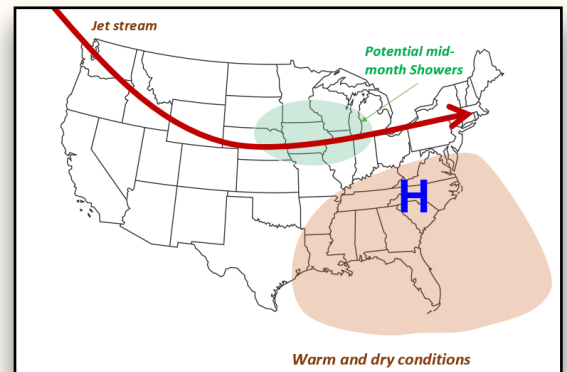
Will high pressure finally shift westward later this month? Some models show that happening, which could cool us down and increase rain chances along the east coast.



Warmer Weather Returns: It probably won't be 90-degree heat, but high pressure again building over the Carolinas will likely push our temperatures back above normal later this month.



Drying Out Again: High pressure in place and the jet stream well to our north should **limit any major rain chances**. This means much of western NC could be approaching two months without significant rainfall.



Forecast guidance from the NWS Climate Prediction Center



<http://climate.ncsu.edu/nighthawk>

