

DAILY PREPAREDNESS BRIEF

Household Edition -- Thursday, 03 September 2026
fortunefavorstheprepared.com



⚠ PREPAREDNESS CONDITION 3 -- BROWN SKY -- INCIDENT PROBABLE ⚠

Thursday, 03 September 2026 | PREP-CON 3 BROWN SKY, HELD | WX-CON 3 GUARDED | SWX-CON: a background space-weather signal has been running quietly for a few days -- still nothing for a household to do

THE ONE THING TODAY

TEXAS OUTAGE RECOVERY CONTINUES -- AND FIRE-WEATHER RISK HAS SHIFTED TO WYOMING, SOUTH DAKOTA AND MONTANA

Texas outage numbers keep improving: about 52,000 customers remain without power statewide, down from roughly 56,800 yesterday and roughly 71,000 at Edouard's peak, with Jefferson County (Beaumont-Port Arthur area) still hit hardest. Separately, fire-weather danger has moved: we checked today and the active Red Flag Warnings are no longer in Idaho or California -- they're now across Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana, with gusty winds and very low humidity through this evening. The multi-state heat wave from earlier this week continues across the southern Plains, Midwest, Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic.

IF YOU'RE IN SOUTHEAST TEXAS: check on neighbors still without power, especially anyone on medical equipment. IF YOU'RE IN WYOMING, SOUTH DAKOTA OR MONTANA: avoid outdoor burning and be ready to report smoke immediately -- conditions today favor fast fire spread. We do not have a fresh national rain-risk map beyond these two areas today.

AIR QUALITY: We don't have a fresh national air quality picture today. The broader thirteen-alert picture we last confirmed (ozone in Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Phoenix; wildfire smoke in Kittitas County WA, Crook/Jefferson/Wasco Counties OR, and southwest Elko County NV) is CARRIED, several days old now - the same advice applies if any of those are still in force where you live: ozone is worst in the afternoon, so move exercise and outdoor work to early morning; wildfire smoke can sit all day, so close the house up, run a filter in one room, and check airnow.gov before going out.



WILDFIRE -- ACREAGE TICKS UP SLIGHTLY

The national wildfire preparedness level is confirmed still at 5 out of 5, the highest there is, holding since 18 July. We checked the fire numbers this morning: about 3.9 million acres burning in large fires, up slightly from yesterday rather than continuing to ease -- the year-to-date total is now over 8.2 million acres. Idaho and Washington remain the states with the most large fires burning. The fire-weather warning picture has shifted: active Red Flag Warnings today are in Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana, not Idaho or California -- see THE ONE THING TODAY above.



SEVERE WEATHER -- SEE THE TOP OF THIS BRIEF

Today's fire-weather risk is the main story and is covered above (Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana). Separately, we checked one of the river flood warnings we'd been carrying since last week -- the Illinois/Indiana one -- and it has expired; it was not renewed. A fresher storm outlook shows a risk of severe thunderstorms today across the Lower Great Lakes and Mid-Atlantic, mainly damaging wind gusts and a few tornadoes possible.



WEATHER RADIO -- 17 DOWN NATIONWIDE

Today's list is clean -- one timestamped roster, no conflicting numbers. 17 transmitters are down or degraded across 13 states. Your weather radio is the alerting method that keeps working when the power and the mobile network do not, so if your area is listed below, do not rely on it alone today. Make sure Wireless Emergency Alerts are switched on in your phone settings, and keep a second way to hear a warning - a local broadcast station, a scanner, or a neighbour who will call you.

STATION	FREQUENCY	STATUS
Saint Paul Island, AK	162.525 MHz	Out of service

Kotzebue, AK	162.550 MHz	Degraded
Summerville, GA	162.450 MHz	Out of service
Neahkahnie, OR	162.425 MHz	Out of service
Baxley, GA	162.525 MHz	Out of service
Hillsboro, IL	162.425 MHz	Out of service
Lancaster, MO	162.550 MHz	Out of service
Ulysses, KS	162.450 MHz	Out of service
Owyhee, NV	162.450 MHz	Degraded
Petoskey, MI	162.475 MHz	Out of service
Gun Flint Lake, MN	162.525 MHz	Out of service
Artesia, NM	162.425 MHz	Out of service
Roswell, NM	162.450 MHz	Out of service
Carlsbad, NM	162.475 MHz	Out of service
Albany, NY	162.550 MHz	Out of service
South Shore, SD	162.425 MHz	Out of service
Shelbyville, TN	162.475 MHz	Out of service



EXTREME HEAT -- SPREADING BACK OUT INTO THE CENTRAL US AND MID-ATLANTIC

This remains a major multi-state heat event: as of our last check, 17 states from the southern Plains through the Midwest, Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic were under Heat Advisories or Extreme Heat Warnings, with heat index values as high as 108 to 110 degrees in parts of Mississippi, Kentucky and the Chicago area, several areas extending through Friday or Saturday. We did not get a fresh national heat check today, so treat this as still likely true rather than freshly confirmed. If you're anywhere in that corridor, treat it as a multi-day event: check on elderly or unwell people every day, drink before you feel thirsty, and never leave a child or a pet in a parked car.



EBOLA -- DAY 110, CASE COUNT JUMPS

A fresh update posted overnight: the confirmed count in Congo jumped to 6,186 cases and 3,007 deaths, up from 5,945 and 2,862 -- a real increase, not a reporting artifact, and it closes a gap where we hadn't seen an update in several days. Most of the new cases are concentrated in the same provinces as before. UGANDA REMAINS OFFICIALLY FINISHED: the World Health Organization declared its outbreak over on 26 August. There is still no Ebola risk to US households and no case has been recorded in the United States.



TROPICAL -- OUTAGE RECOVERY CONTINUES, PACIFIC STORMS STILL FAR OFFSHORE

Edouard is gone -- see THE ONE THING TODAY above for the Texas outage picture. Out in the Pacific, Hurricane Karina, Hurricane Lowell (Central Pacific) and Tropical Storm Marie were all active as of yesterday, far out to sea with no direct US land threat; we did not get a fresh check on their positions today, so if you're planning beach time on the West Coast or in Hawaii, check a live source before you go rather than relying on yesterday's picture. There is no tropical watch or warning in force for any part of the United States.

WHAT TODAY'S IRAN NEWS MEANS FOR YOU

The US military has now responded to the wedding-strike claim from a few days ago for the first time, saying it "never targets civilians" without directly addressing what happened. Iran's own death count for that strike settled at 4 people (two children, two women) -- lower than a claim of 11 that circulated briefly and wasn't sustained. Iran has also filed a formal complaint with the International Criminal Court, moving this from public back-and-forth toward a legal process, which typically takes a long time and doesn't change the near-term picture on the ground.

Gas prices: oil prices actually eased slightly overnight, down a bit after several days of climbing -- a small reversal, not a trend yet. At the pump, today's national average gas price checked out the same as our last few checks, \$4.0954 a gallon; we didn't get a fresh independent pull today, so treat that as likely still true rather than freshly confirmed.

Shipping/delivery delays: no new shipping incident was reported today; the tanker hit by projectiles near Oman earlier this week remains the most recent one. The picture for consumer goods and fuel supply continues to look less dire than the headlines suggest, though it remains worth watching if you have direct exposure to Gulf shipping.

No safety action needed in the US: there is no credible threat to US soil tied to this. For the vast majority of households this remains a wallet and planning issue rather than a safety one -- the exception is if you have direct exposure to Gulf shipping, regional air travel, or fuel-indexed contracts, in which case treat this as a more volatile week than last.

PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST -- TODAY'S PRIORITIES

TEXAS OUTAGE RECOVERY

- ☐ If you're in the Beaumont-Port Arthur area, check on neighbors still without power (about 52,000 statewide this morning, down from roughly 71,000 at the peak), especially anyone on medical equipment -- report outages to your utility if yours hasn't come back
- ☐ Never drive into water over a road, even now that the storm has passed -- standing water on low roads can linger for days
- ☐ As of our last check, across 17 states from the southern Plains to the Mid-Atlantic: dust off the heat routine if you're in the affected corridor -- check on elderly or unwell neighbors and relatives, drink before you're thirsty, and never leave a child or pet in a parked car. This heat is forecast to run through Friday or Saturday in several areas, not just today.
- ☐ If anyone in the house depends on powered medical equipment, call your utility now and ask to be flagged as a medical priority -- do not wait to see how it goes
- ☐ We don't have a fresh air quality check today. Our last-confirmed ozone and smoke alerts (Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Phoenix, Houston for ozone; Kittitas WA, central Oregon, southwest Elko NV for smoke) are carried, several days old now - same rules apply if still in force where you live: ozone worst in the afternoon, so move outdoor activity to the morning; smoke can sit all day so close up and filter one room
- ☐ If you live near a recent wildfire burn scar, treat a heavy rain forecast as a flood warning -- burned ground cannot absorb water and sends mud downhill fast

WILDFIRE AND SMOKE (Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana have active fire-weather warnings today)

- ☐ If you are in Wyoming, South Dakota or Montana, today's fire-weather warnings mean gusty winds and very low humidity -- avoid any outdoor burning and be ready to report smoke immediately. If you are in Idaho, Washington or Oregon where fire activity remains high but no warning is named for your specific spot, don't assume you're in the clear
- ☐ Go bag in the vehicle: medications, documents, phone charger, water, pet supplies
- ☐ Smoke plan: know which room you can close up and filter, and check airnow.gov before outdoor exercise -- if you have asthma, COPD or a heart condition keep rescue medication with you
- ☐ If you are in the Boundary Waters, the Gun Flint Lake weather radio transmitter is still out -- carry a second way to receive warnings

GENERAL THURSDAY PREPAREDNESS

- ☐ Check your NOAA weather radio against the table above. Make sure Wireless Emergency Alerts are switched on in your phone settings as a second path
- ☐ If you or your employer run business software, seven items were added to the federal must-patch list overnight, including one rated maximum severity in a SonicWall device used by many small businesses for remote access -- if your workplace uses SonicWall equipment, ask your IT provider to check and patch today, not this week
- ☐ Turn on automatic updates on your phone, computer and home router if they are not already on -- that covers most home users for this week
- ☐ Family communications plan: do you have a meeting place and an out-of-area contact if phones are down? A flash flood that closes roads is exactly the situation it is for

CONDITION SUMMARY

PREP-CON 3
BROWN SKY

Incident Probable, held. The US military has now responded to the wedding-strike claim, and Iran has taken its casualty complaint to the International Criminal Court -- a shift from public statements to a formal process, not a new safety development. This still has not produced anything that meets our threshold for moving the household condition to level 2 -- no confirmed threat to US soil, no credible named threat against the US directly. At home, Texas outage numbers keep improving and fire-weather risk has shifted north to Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana. There remains no credible threat to US soil.

**WX-CON 3
GUARDED --
Severe Weather**

WX-CON 3 GUARDED, held. Neither of the two things that would raise it happened: no death or mass evacuation was confirmed on a tracked fire or storm. Wildfire acreage ticked up slightly rather than continuing to ease (about 3.9 million acres), and fire-weather risk has shifted to Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana. The national preparedness level is confirmed still at 5 of 5.

**SWX-CON --
Quiet, Nothing To
Do**

The three-day space-weather disturbance we told you about earlier this week has ended and stayed closed. The quieter, satellite-charging-related signal we mentioned yesterday is still running and has actually strengthened a bit -- still nothing that affects phones, wifi, cars or the power grid where most people live. A new, separate solar signal was also flagged overnight; it's the kind that typically precedes an eventual space-weather event by a few days, so we're watching it, but there is nothing for a household to do about it yet.

**COMCON 4
Increased Vigilance**

Today's transmitter list is clean, no conflicting numbers -- 17 stations down or degraded across 13 states, see the Weather Radio section above for the full table. New Mexico has three affected. No group of transmitters sits inside an active fire-weather warning zone, so there is no coverage-gap alert.

RESOURCES

Emergency preparedness planning: fortunefavorstheprepared.com

Daily Threat Report (practitioner): fortunefavorstheprepared.com/dtr/

NIFC National Fire News: nifc.gov/fire-information/nfn

NOAA Space Weather Center: swpc.noaa.gov

SPC Severe Weather Outlooks: spc.noaa.gov

Washington wildfire and evacuation information: wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov

WHO Ebola outbreak updates: who.int

American Red Cross disaster welfare: redcross.org

END

Fortune Favors the Prepared | Daily Preparedness Brief | 03 SEPTEMBER 2026

See the full suite of reports at <https://fortunefavorstheprepared.com/dtr/>

Semper Paratus, Semper Gumby.

fortunefavorstheprepared.com