

Warm spring, continued drought predicted for US (Update)

March 21 2013



The sun sets behind the downtown Kansas City, Mo. skyline as above average temperatures returned to the region Thursday, March 14, 2013. Government forecasters say much of the United States can expect a warm spring and persistent drought. The National Weather Service said Thursday, March 21, 2013 above-normal temperatures are predicted across most of the Lower 48 states and northern Alaska. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

Government forecasters say much of the United States can expect a warm spring and persistent drought.

The National Weather Service said Thursday above-normal temperatures are predicted across most of the Lower 48 states and northern Alaska. The forecast also calls for little relief for the drought-stricken Midwest and Southwest. Currently, half the country is experiencing moderate to exceptional drought.

Late snowmelt will bring a threat of river flooding along the upper Mississippi. North Dakota is at the most risk of flooding from the Red River.

A cooler spring is predicted for the Pacific Northwest and northern Great Plains. Drier-than-normal conditions are on tap for the West and Gulf Coast. Hawaii is expected to be cooler and drier than usual.

The spring outlook covers April, May and June.

More information: [www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2 ...
1_springoutlook.html](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2/2013/03/21/1_springoutlook.html)

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