



Weather Observation

Meteorologist: _____ **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____ **Location:** _____

Outdoor air temperature at eye level: _____ **F** _____ **C**

Direction wind is coming from: **N** **E** **S** **W**

How windy is it right now? _____ **mph (miles per hour):**

< 1 mph	Calm	No wind
1-3 mph	Light	Can't feel wind on face; smoke rises straight up
4-7 mph	Light	Leaves rustle; feel wind on face
8-12 mph	Light	Leaves AND twigs move
13-18 mph	Moderate	Leaves, twigs AND small branches move
19-24 mph	Fresh	Small trees sway
25-31 mph	Strong	Large branches begin to move
32-38 mph	Strong	Whole trees in motion
39-46 mph	Gale	Twigs break off

Cloud Observation

How much of the sky from your location has clouds?

- 25% or less (mostly clear)
- 50% (half cloudy and half clear sky)
- 75% (mostly cloudy)
- 100% (no blue sky; overcast)

Low Clouds (up to 2 miles above Earth):

- Nimbostratus (dark gray, ragged at the bottom; bring steady rain or snow for a long time)
- Stratus (flat and spread out like a solid sheet, often gray; some rain coming)
- Cumulonimbus (dark below, puffy layers heaped on each other; big downpour, wind)
- Cumulus (fluffy cotton balls; bright sunny day)
- Stratocumulus (gray row of low fuzzy lumps; no rain)

Middle Clouds (1-4 miles above Earth):

- Altocumulus (puffy, patchy, with gray shadows, like a flock of sheep; if hot, thunderstorm coming)
- Altostratus (gray-blue, streaky; rain coming at night or next day)

High Clouds (3-4 miles above Earth made of ice crystals):

- Cirrocumulus (small, thin, white puffs across the whole sky, like fish scales; cold weather coming)
- Cirrostratus (can cover whole sky; rain or snow in 12-24 hours)
- Cirrus (wispy feathers or mares' tails; fair weather and strong winds up high)