



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

**DATE:**

June 19, 2024

**TO:**

The Honorable Josh Shapiro  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**FROM:**

Randy Padfield  
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency

**TIME PERIOD:**

This report covers the period from 0600 hours, June 18, 2024, through 0600 hours, June 19, 2024.

**STATUS REPORT:** (as of 0600 hours)

**THREAT STATUS:**

**National Terrorism Advisory System:** There are no current advisories.

**Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Status:** Normal Operations

**County EOC Activations:** None

**Municipal EOC Activations:** None

**CAPABILITIES STATUS:**

**PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management / Team – Mission Capable**  
**PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1) – Mission Capable**

**INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:**

<b>Major Road Closures:</b>	None
<b>Power Outage Reports:</b>	As of 0536 hours, 12,703 customers
<b>Telephone Outage Reports:</b>	None

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:**

**OPEN:**

**DOWNED UTILITY LINE – Beaver County, 6/18/24** - A main tension line is down in the Ohio River in the vicinity of mile marker 34 of the Ohio River near 211 Ferry Hill Road in Shippingport Borough. The line runs near Shippingport Bridge. Shippingport Police and Fire responded. Duquesne Light was notified along with notifications to U. S. Coast Guard and Montgomery Lock and Dam. Montgomery Lock and Dam temporarily held river traffic. The bridge remains open. Ferry Hill Road was closed. The utility company de-energized the line and river traffic resumed. Repairs are being conducted by the utility company.

**ADVERSE WEATHER – EXTREME HEAT –Statewide, 6/17/24** – Severe thunderstorms and high heat crossed into the Commonwealth leading to a high number of power outages. Power outages peaked around 110,000 into the evening but have begun to recede. Cooling shelters have been opened in Clarion, Dauphin, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties. At 0800 on 6/18/24 the Commonwealth Watch and Warning Center moved to Enhanced Operations due to the heat. Additionally cooling shelters opened throughout Pennsylvania as another day of heat impacted the Commonwealth. Power outages issues stabilized allowing the number of outages to recede closer to June norms with repairs continuing to be addressed.

**APARTMENT UTILITY ISSUE – Philadelphia County, 6/10/24** - A 14-story, 100x50, 100+ unit apartment building at 3701 Chestnut Street in Philadelphia had a water pipe break at 1258 hours on 6/10/2024. Philadelphia Fire Department reported issues of malfunctioning elevators. Command reported approximately 30 occupants were displaced as a result of the leaking water pipe. The Philadelphia Water Department (PWD), Labor and Industry (L and I) and Office of Emergency Management were requested to respond to the location. The leak was isolated as of 1320 hours. Command placed the incident under control at 1501 hours. All occupants are students. The evacuated building is owned by a private entity, and they are working on getting the power turned on. However, this will not happen until sometime tomorrow. The displaced individuals were provided transportation and hotel rooms by property management. Philadelphia OEM will hold a meeting this morning to ensure housing is provided to the displaced individuals until they are allowed back into their residences. 6/11/24 - L and I issued a cease and vacate order. A reception center has been established at the Neumann Center on the UPenn Campus, and the American Red Cross has established a shelter at the South Philadelphia High School. Nine adults and one child reported to the shelter. The Salvation Army is assisting with meals. 6/16/24 – The new target date to close the shelter is Monday, 6/17/24. L and I is awaiting a part to repair the electrical system in the original building. There are currently seven people staying in the shelter. 6/17/24 - There are currently six adults in the shelter and no children. The status of the property at 3701 Chestnut Street is still not finalized but it continues to be worked on. If still needed, the shelter at South Philadelphia High School will be relocated to 600 East Luzerne Street on 6/17/24 by 1400 hours. OEM will support the shelter residents in moving to the new shelter at 1400 hours, if needed.

**WATER LEAK – Lancaster County, 6/1/24** - A 3/4" cap on a water line broke on the 3rd floor of the Lancaster County Government Building, 150 North Queen Street in the City of Lancaster. The leak caused water damage to the 3rd floor as well as the floors below. A damage assessment was conducted by the Emergency Management staff, the County Facilities Director, and Complete Restoration. On 6/2/24, the County Commissioners decided to close the government center on Monday, 6/3/24, while evaluation of water damage in the building continues. The center reopened to the public on 6/10/24, but many of the offices are out of their normal locations and the facility is still in recovery mode.

**ROAD CLOSURE DUE TO SUBSIDENCE – Cambria County, 4/25/24** - An engineer for West Taylor Township contacted the county EMA about subsidence of the roadway in the 100

block of Batzel Road. Emergency management staff responded and noted considerable subsidence of the roadway. This is reportedly an ongoing issue where the township lays down new asphalt as a temporary measure. Electrical service and a cable line are pulled tight between the nearby residence and a utility pole which seems to have shifted. There is also considerable twisting of the guardrail. Cement barriers will be requested to close the roadway. There are no residents that are currently affected by this closure. There will be a minor detour for emergency vehicles. Engineers are working with the township to develop a long-term repair plan.

**TRAIN DERAILMENT – Columbiana County, Ohio, 2/3/23** - On 2/3/23 at 2130 hours, mutual aid crews from Beaver County responded to a train derailment near Taggart Street, East Palestine, Ohio. Approximately 53 railcars derailed and some of them caught fire. There were five cars of vinyl chloride within the wreckage. Around 2330 hours a call was received from an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 representative, and they advised there was no current impact to PA. EPA Region 5 and Ohio EPA set up air monitoring equipment and they also used handheld monitors, and nothing was detected. Members of the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Southwest Regional Office were also onsite monitoring through daylight and maintained a presence until there was no threat to PA. An IMAAC model showed a potential impact to residences in PA if harmful chemicals were released from any of the derailed cars. Beaver County EMA Coordinator reported that they followed Columbiana County, Ohio's lead and a message was sent out to 16 registered users in the one-mile zone to shelter in place. Ohio later changed their message to an evacuation, but Beaver County remained as a shelter-in-place due to no residences being impacted. Shell Monaca was provided green foam to help extinguish the fires. Clean-up contractors from SPSI and Hepaco responded to the scene. The shelter-in-place order remained in effect for Beaver County. Beaver County sent tankers from nine departments and an engine to assist in drafting from a lake in town once the railroad deemed it was safe. As of 2/5/23, Columbiana County, Ohio EMA recommended a one-mile evacuation around the incident due to one of the vinyl chloride rail cars showing a temperature increase. This included the 10 homes that were sheltering in place within Beaver County. On 2/6/23, all 20 homes in the PA evacuation zone were evacuated. Beaver County Animal Response Team (CART) requested assistance for trailers from Washington and Westmoreland counties to assist with the evacuation of farm animals from Kindred Spirits Rescue Farm. The recommended evacuation zone remained at one mile. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) ordered a partial activation of the Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) at 1100 hours and Beaver County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) partially activated. A planned controlled detonation was performed to empty five rail cars into a trench to burn off the vinyl chloride. Norfolk Southern established a Family Assistance Center for affected residents in New Waterford, Ohio; Beaver Valley Intermediate School remained open. On 2/7/23, the plume from the controlled detonation on 2/6/23 dissipated with no significant air detection identified by EPA Region 3 or PA DEP. Norfolk Southern conducted wrecking operations of damaged cars at the sight. Normal readings were reported by the Ohio Civil Support Team after monitoring the inside of three residences. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources reported approximately 1,800 fish killed within the streams and creeks that were affected. Air monitoring continued and there were no contaminants or concerns. The PEMA CRCC demobilized on 2/8/23 at 1600 hours. All roads that were closed in PA, including PA-51, were reopened. The Beaver County EOC deactivated at 1200 hours on 2/10/23. A public inquiry line remains operational. On 2/14/23, the EPA identified three other chemicals that were part of the train. They continued to monitor the air and waterways for contamination. On 2/23/23, PEMA, in conjunction with the Departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection, launched a website to provide information to Commonwealth residents about the derailment. On 2/28/23, the Pennsylvania Department of Health opened a Health Resource Center in Darlington Township, Beaver County for residents of Beaver and Lawrence counties who have

health concerns following the Norfolk Southern train derailment. On 3/1/23, door-to-door surveys were conducted for 22 households within the 1-mile evacuation zone. Additional discussion led to a decision to do CDC outreach (door knocking) within the 2-mile radius in Pennsylvania, which began on 3/2/23. Approximately 450 healthcare providers participated in three webinars conducted on 2/28/23 and 3/1/23 for major medical providers in the Southwestern Region. Sample testing and review on Norfolk Southern soil sampling continued by Commonwealth agencies. The EPA Region 3 Director accompanied by staff, Pennsylvania Senator Casey, and Representative Deluzio toured the site on 3/2/23. On Monday, 3/6/23, Pennsylvania Governor Shapiro announced that Norfolk Southern has agreed to pay Pennsylvania millions of dollars for the impacts of the train derailment. Norfolk Southern agreed to reimburse local fire departments to replace contaminated or damaged equipment used during the response to the derailment, to provide funds for a Community Relief Fund to be run by officials in Beaver and Lawrence counties, and to reimburse state agencies (DEP, DOH, and PEMA) for associated costs. Norfolk Southern collected soil samples with representatives from the EPA present. Removal of the train tracks closest of Pennsylvania began over the weekend and was completed 3/5/23. Excavation of the contaminated soil began, and odors were expected to be released into the air. Air monitoring was increased during the process which is expected to take at least three to four days depending on the depth of the contaminants in the soil. The EPA requested Norfolk Southern to provide additional financial assistance to residents within one mile of the derailment site if they are impacted by the odors released during the excavation of the soil which the company has agreed too. Pennsylvania state agencies supported another East Palestine Community Resource Fair this Thursday at the East Palestine High School. Beaver County coordinated a separate Community Resource Fair for Pennsylvania residents for the following week which the state agencies supported. U.S. Senator Bob Casey completed a quick tour and talk at the Health Resource Center Monday morning. A Norfolk Southern contracted company sampled 16 private wells in Pennsylvania. DEP sampled 27 private wells in the area as of Monday with more sampling expected 3/7/23. On 3/8/23 DHS coordinated a call with Beaver and Lawrence counties about the possibility of applying for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Emergency Response Grant (SERG) to provide funding for additional behavioral health services that may be required following this incident. DOH and PEMA also participated in the call. Excavation work at the site was temporarily stopped due to elevated readings and release of odor. The excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was mostly complete. As of 3/13/23, Norfolk Southern was waiting on soil samples to come back from the elevated spots that were detected. Due to contaminants being detected during the initial excavation at two to four inches, additional sampling was done at 12 to 15 inches to make sure all contaminated soil is removed. Soil excavation for the north track was still in the planning process. As of 3/16/23, the excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was completed. The Health Resource Center (HRC) completed its final daily operational period at 1400, 3/16/23. The HRC moved to operations on Thursdays beginning 3/23/23. Excavation of the north track and removal of contaminated soil and water continued. OSHA joined the on-site operations to provide support to the safety officer and ensure that the community and personnel are safe during operations. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on air quality and air monitoring on 4/27/23. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on surface water on Thursday, May 11, at the Way Station and First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. As of 6/27/23, excavation underneath Pleasant Drive was complete, and the roadway was opened for traffic on 6/28/23. Contamination underneath the north and south tracks was removed, and both tracks are fully operational. As of 7/11/23, surface and ground water sampling plans for the remainder of the cleanup have been approved by EPA. In addition, gravel was laid on the turnaround on East Martin Street in preparation for asphalt to help control erosion and dust. A site storm water inspection was conducted, and additional storm water controls were put into place to improve the existing storm water management plan. EPA hosted a site progress information session

on 7/20/23 at the First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. Activities are ongoing. As of 7/31/23, Norfolk Southern offered help with indoor cleaning for homes and business for those within the one-to-two-mile Ohio-Pennsylvania evacuation zone. As of 3/22/24, the EPA and PA DEP continue to monitor wells in the area.

#### **CLOSED:**

**EVACUATION – Lehigh County, 6/18/24** – Fire units responded to a Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus located at 2809 Saucon Valley Road in Upper Saucon Township for a fire in the library. A working fire was confirmed in the building and the building was evacuated. The fire was extinguished in under three and a half hours.

**POWER OUTAGE - Beaver County, 6/18/24** - Beaver County Jail located at 6000 Woodlawn Road, in Hopewell Township, reported the facility was without power. The jail's generator was not functioning, and all doors will not open on remote. Maintenance was notified and the jail remained on lockdown. They manually opened doors with a key. Beaver County Public was notified to get their emergency generator operational. Power was restored after six hours.

**EVACUATION – Allegheny County, 6/18/24** - Arthur J. Demor Towers apartment building located at 1 Demor Drive, in Verona Borough, was partially evacuated due to a loss of power and air conditioning. Some of the residents sheltered in place. Residents who required oxygen or required special needs were shuttled to Verona Borough Building for shelter. Salvation Army and American Red Cross was notified of the incident. The issue was resolve Tuesday evening.

**DUMP TRUCK IN SCHUYLKILL RIVER – Northumberland County, 6/17/24** – Emergency crews responded to the Schuylkill River at the Bingaman Street Bridge in the City of Reading, for an empty tri-axle dump truck that rolled over into the river. Booms were placed in the river to contain the spill. The Pottstown water treatment plant was notified of the potential of 100 gallons of diesel fuel into the river. Local fire units reported the dump truck belonged to PennDOT and the driver was transported to Tower Health Reading Hospital for unspecified injuries. The truck was up righted and removed from the river. DEP and a private contractor responded and coordinated cleanup operations.

#### **DISASTER DECLARATIONS:**

6/7/24 – City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a multi-residential structure fire at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Commons Shelter on 6/4/24.

5/27/24 – Mahanoy City Borough issued a Declaration of Disaster due to adverse weather.

5/11/24 - Union Township, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/23/24 - Hopewell Township, Beaver County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/18/24 - South Buffalo Township, Armstrong County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 4/11/24 and 4/12/24.

4/11/24 - Canton Township, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/11/24 - Oakdale Borough, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Jefferson Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Jackson Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Perry Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Wayne Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Center Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/9/24 - Aleppo Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/8/24 - Washington Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/8/24 - Richhill Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/5/24 - Gilmore Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/4/24 - Nippenose Township, Lycoming County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/4/24 - Deemston Borough, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/4/24 - Marianna Borough, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/3/24 - Red Stone Township, Fayette County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/3/24 - German Township, Fayette County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/3/24 - Brownsville Borough, Fayette County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/3/24 – Bentleyville Borough, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/3/24 – Punxsutawney Borough, Jefferson County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

2/13/24 – Millersburg Borough has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to power outages affecting independent living facilities and apartments on 2/13/24.

9/25/23 – Blawnox Borough, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a water main break and damages to Freeport Road.

9/23/23 – Oxford Borough, Chester County has issued a Continuation of the Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the multi-building structure fire on 9/13/23.

9/19/23 – Fairchance Borough, Fayette County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a dam issue that has caused or threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property of Fairchance Borough on or about 9/19/23.

9/14/23 – Oxford Borough, Chester County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the multi-building structure fire on 9/13/23.

9/13/23 – Clifford Township, Susquehanna County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

9/10/23 – Lackawanna County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the severe thunderstorms and flooding of 9/9/23 through 9/10/23.

08/24/23 – Forest Lake Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – New Milford Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – Harford Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/18/23 – Rush Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/18/23 – Susquehanna County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

8/14/23 – Plum Borough, Allegheny County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a house explosion on 8/13/23.

6/16/23 – West Caln Township, Chester County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather and storm damage throughout the township on 6/16/23.

6/12/23 - Governor Josh Shapiro issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for Philadelphia County in response to the I-95 fire and collapse on 6/11/23. The governor's proclamation makes \$7 million of state funds immediately available for the reconstruction of the roadway and authorizes the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the Pennsylvania State Police to use all available resources and personnel, as necessary. This proclamation will remain in place for 21 days, unless extended by the Legislature.

9/10/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments, and individuals affected by the remnants of Hurricane IDA between 8/31/21 and 9/5/21. The declaration includes Individual Assistance to individuals and households in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York counties, and assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in all areas of the Commonwealth. Public Assistance is under review. The President approved the declaration on 9/10/21 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4618-DR. 9/24/21 - Amendment No. 1 designates Bedford and Northampton counties for Individual Assistance. 10/8/21 - Amendment No. 2 designates Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). 10/14/21 - Amendment No. 3 designates Bedford, Philadelphia, and York counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). Plus, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, and Schuylkill counties for Public Assistance. 10/20/21 - Amendment No. 4 designates Delaware County for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance), and Dauphin County for Public Assistance.

8/31/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, signed a statewide Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on 8/31/21 in response to severe weather event Hurricane Ida that impacted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania causing widespread threats of serious flash and riverine flooding and other adverse impacts throughout the Commonwealth.

3/30/20 - Governor Tom Wolf requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments and certain nonprofits, as well as individuals who are struggling during the COVID-19 outbreak. The request for a major disaster declaration will provide the same emergency protective measures available under the nationwide emergency proclamation; the following Individual Assistance programs: Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling, Community Disaster Loans, and the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Program; and Statewide Hazard Mitigation. The President approved the declaration on 3/30/20 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4506-DR.

11/27/18 - A Major Disaster Declaration was declared on 11/27/18 for severe storms and flooding that occurred 8/10/18 - 8/15/18. Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was approved for Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Lycoming, Montour, Northampton, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4408-DR.

**CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:**

Delaware:	Normal Operations
Maryland:	Normal Operations
New Jersey:	Normal Operations



New York: Normal Operations  
Ohio: Normal Operations  
West Virginia: Normal Operations

## **24-Hour Projected Weather Statewide:**

### **National Weather Service, 0445 hours, 6/19/24**

High pressure off the East Coast will continue to direct unusually hot and humid air into the Commonwealth for the rest of this week and into the weekend.

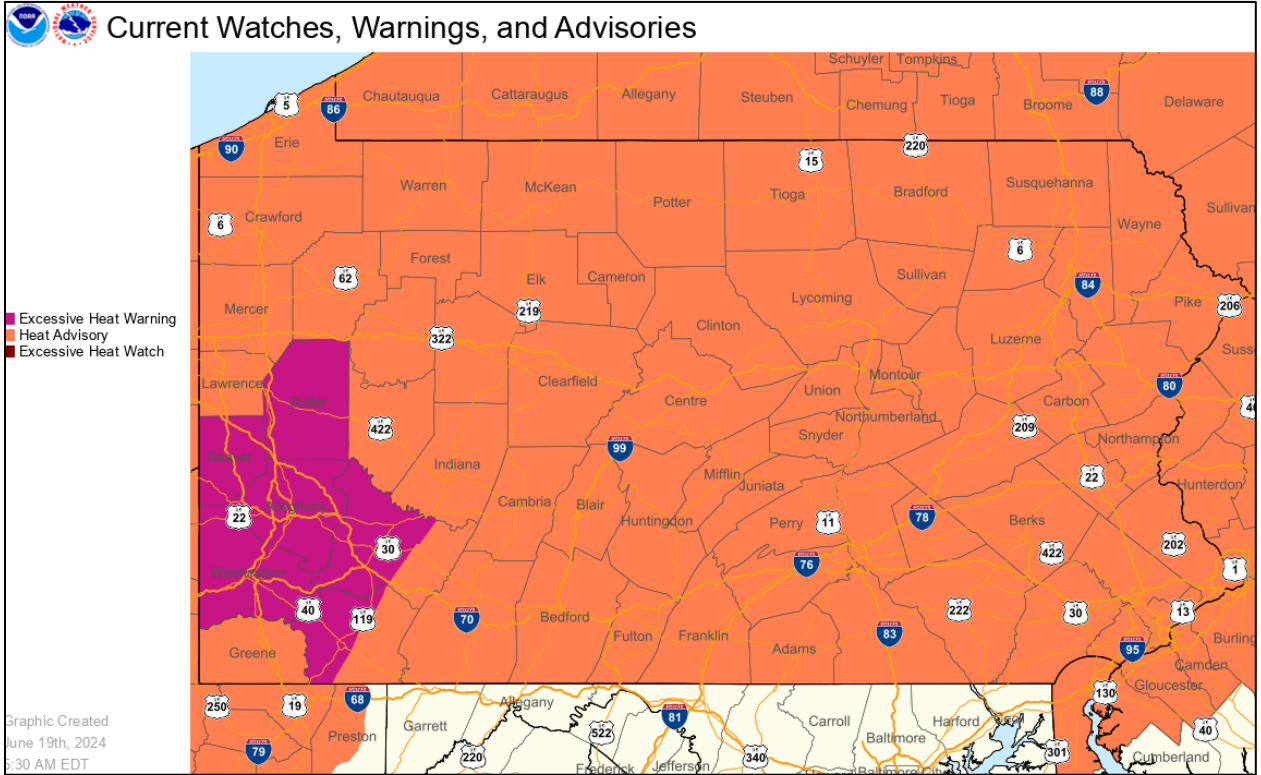
Expect scattered showers and thunderstorms close to the New York border this afternoon and evening with an isolated storm or two occurring as far south as Interstate 80. High temperatures and high humidity will push the heat index up near 100 across all of the Commonwealth. High temperatures will be near 85 on the highest ridge tops and lower 90s in the valleys. Lows tonight will be 65 to 70 degrees.

Thursday looks similar to today regarding temperatures and where the pop-up storms will occur. The daily thunderstorms across the north may cause a few stronger wind gusts, particularly in the northeast. The heat and humidity will combine to push the heat index close to 100 degrees again over all of the Commonwealth.

### **WATCHES AND WARNINGS:**

An Excessive Heat Watch has been issued until 2000 hours on 6/23/24 for the following counties: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, and Philadelphia

An Excessive Heat Warning has been issued until 2000 hours on 6/21/24 for the following counties: Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland



**TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK:**

