



# TROPICAL STORM HELENE BRIEFING #2

6:00 AM EDT

Wednesday, September 25th, 2024

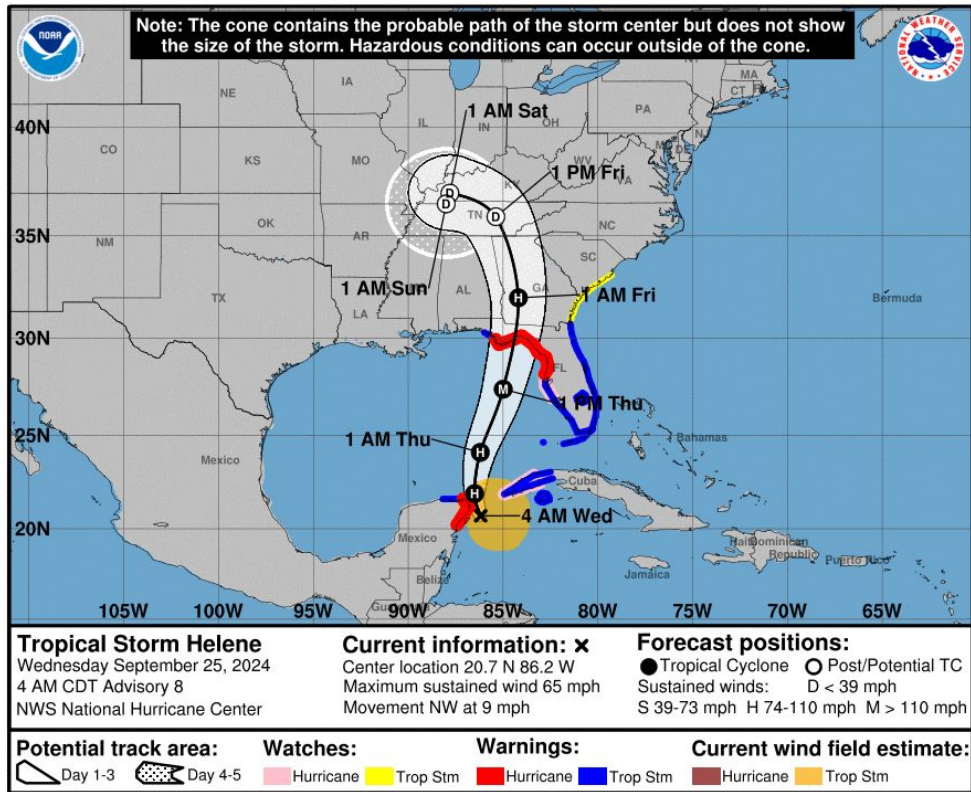
## What has changed:

Flood Watch has been extended another tier of counties to the east.  
Risk of life-threatening flash flooding, main stem river flooding, and landslides has increased.



# Forecast Track

## Tropical Storm Helene



- Little change in the track or intensity forecast since yesterday.
- There are **no** Tropical Storm Watches/Warnings for our forecast area at this time.
- Heaviest rainfall is expected in our area tonight through Friday morning.
- Strongest winds are expected Thursday night and Friday morning.



# Pre-Helene Rainfall

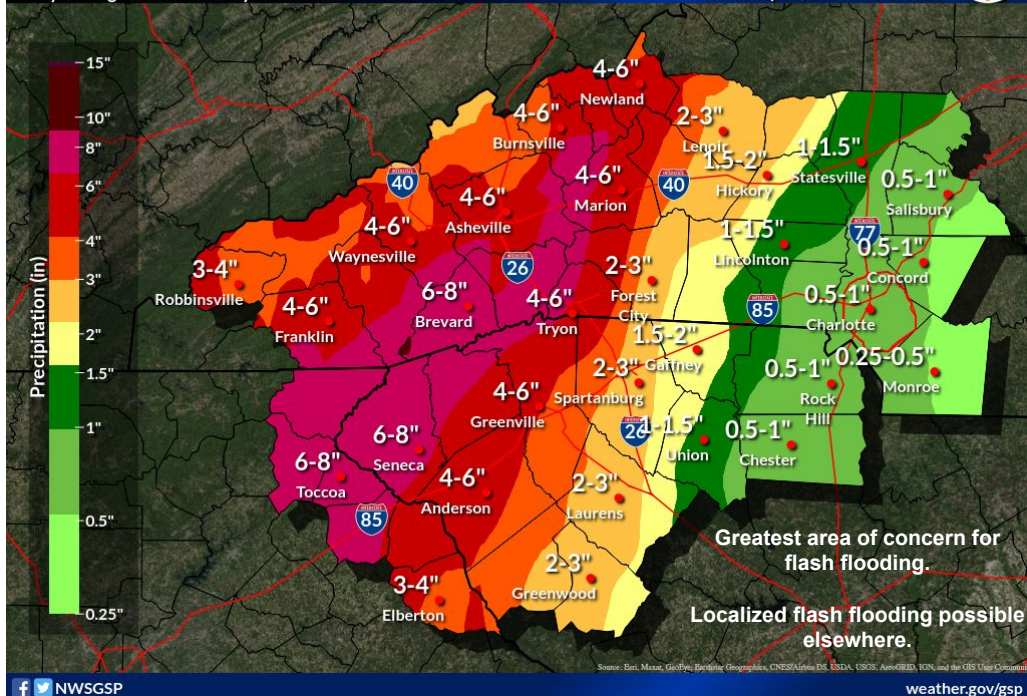
Tropical Storm Helene

Note: The forecast will change between now and Wednesday night

## Pre-Helene Rainfall

Today through 8 PM Thursday

Weather Forecast Office  
Greenville-Spartanburg  
Issued Sep 25, 2024 4:08 AM EDT

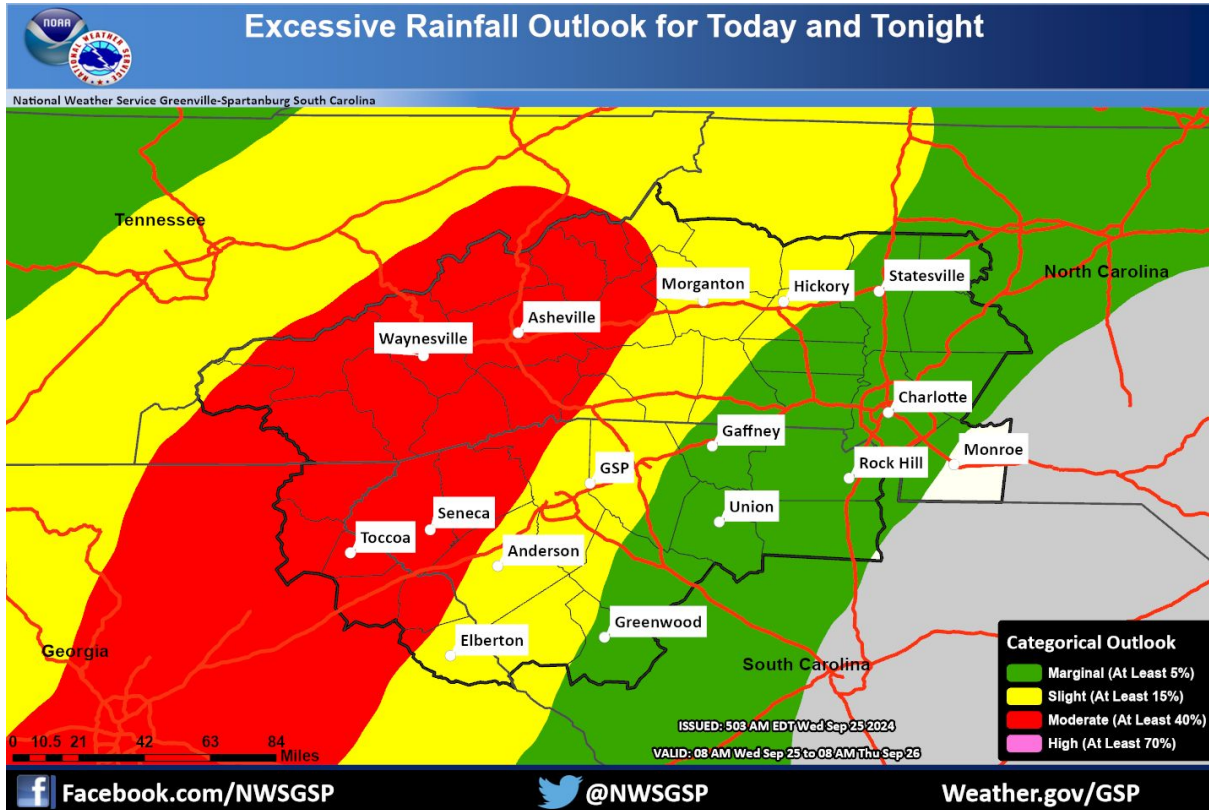


- A “predecessor” rainfall event ahead of Helene will develop later today and continue through Thursday.
- Region of heavy rainfall that develops 24-36 hours in advance of the main rain bands associated with Tropical Systems.
- Flash flood concern will be greatest along and near the Blue Ridge Escarpment prior to Helene, with 4-8” expected. Flash flooding is likely to develop in these areas **before** tropical rain bands arrive.



# Pre-Helene Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Tropical Storm Helene





# Helene Rainfall

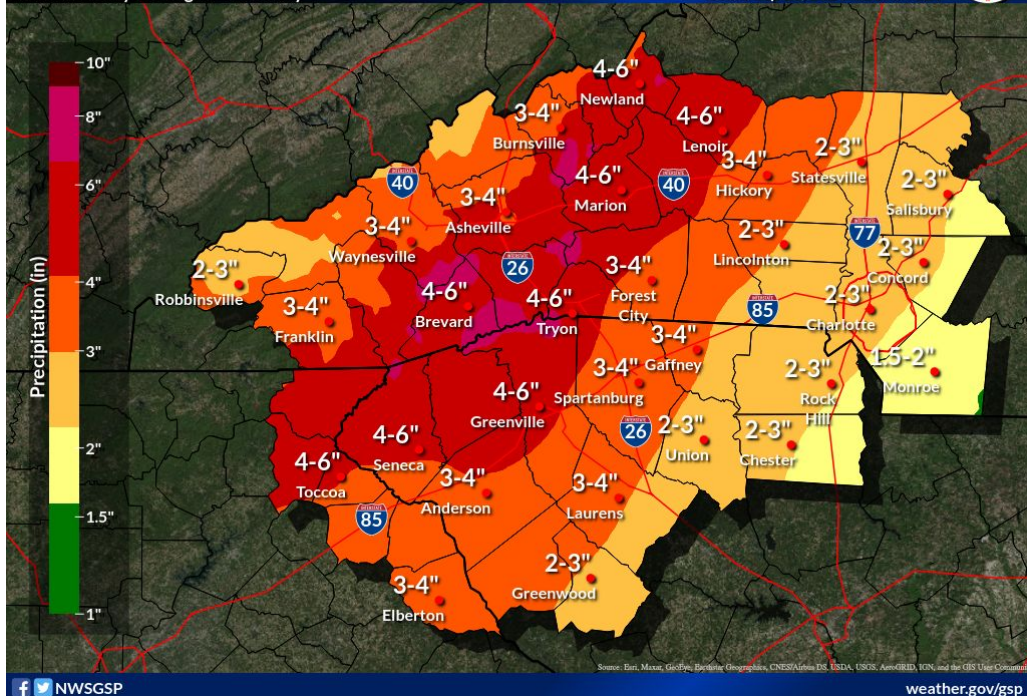
Tropical Storm Helene

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## Helene Rainfall

8 PM Thursday Through 8 PM Friday

Weather Forecast Office  
Greenville-Spartanburg  
Issued Sep 25, 2024 4:11 AM EDT

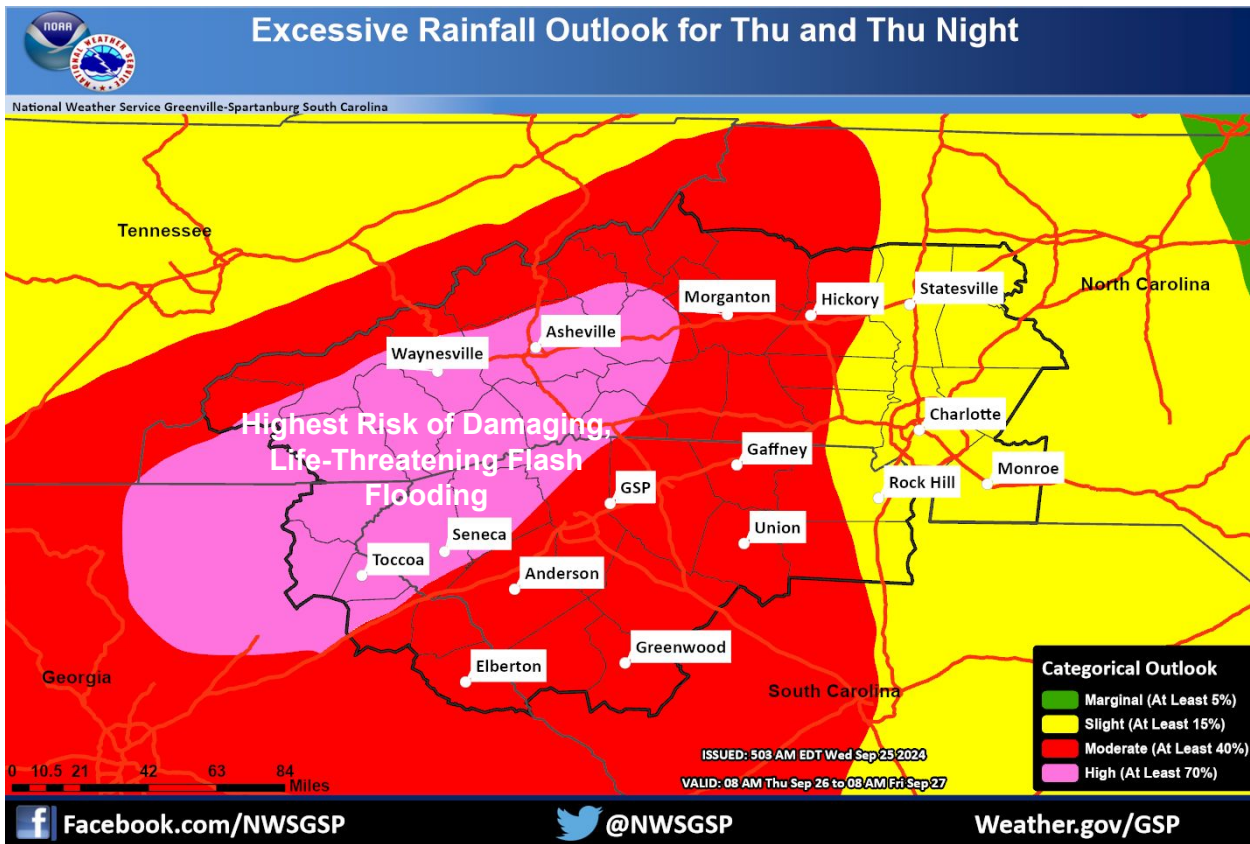


- The main tropical rain bands associated with Helene will move into the area Thursday night, peaking between midnight and sunrise Friday before tapering off.
- **Additional** rainfall amounts of 3 to 6 inches with locally higher amounts are expected during this time, with lesser amounts east toward the I-77 corridor. This rainfall on top of already-saturated soils and ongoing flash flooding will lead to worsening flash flood impacts, with locally catastrophic, life-threatening flash flooding possible in areas along and near the Blue Ridge escarpment.
- Vulnerable areas need to prepare for the worst case scenario. Areas that normally do not flood may flood.



# Helene Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Tropical Storm Helene





# Storm Total Rainfall

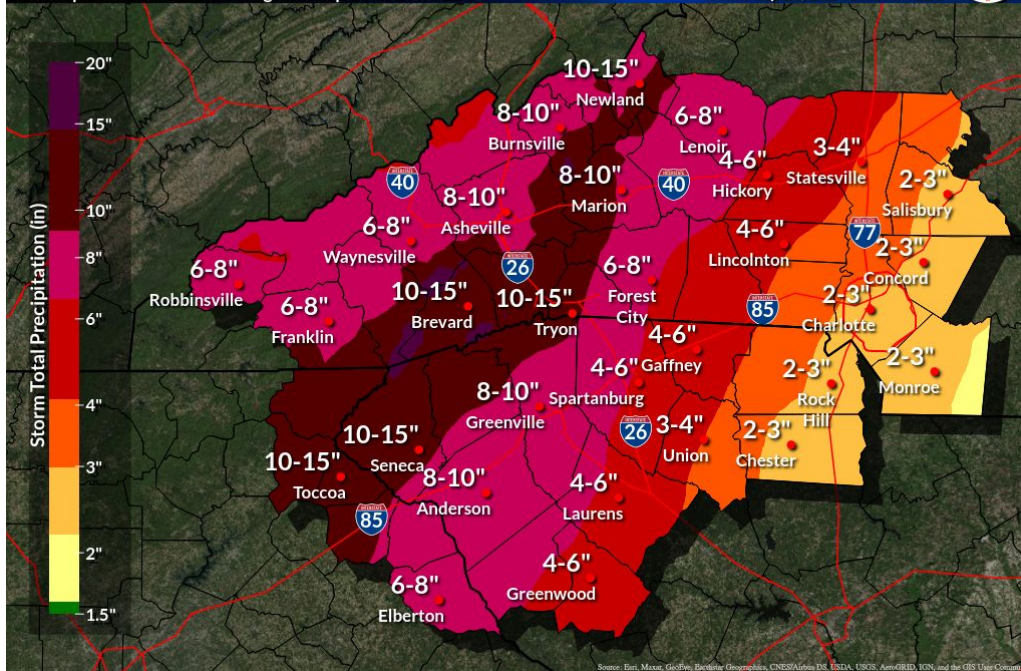
## Tropical Storm Helene

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### Storm Total Precipitation

Wed Sep 25 at 8 AM EDT Through Sat Sep 28 at 2 AM EDT

Weather Forecast Office  
Greenville-Spartanburg  
Issued Sep 25, 2024 3:52 AM EDT



Source: DHI, Mxaz, Geopay, Benjamin Geographics, CNESA/Amica, D3, USDA, ESOS, AeroGRID, ICON, and the GIS User Community

f NWGSP

weather.gov/gsp

- Storm total rainfall of 9-14" with locally higher amounts could result in life-threatening flash flooding in areas along and near the Blue Ridge escarpment. Locally severe flash flooding could develop in other areas.
- Significant flooding of larger streams and mainstem rivers is likely with flooding in some areas persisting into at least Saturday. Major flooding is possible with any rivers with headwaters near the Blue Ridge.
- Numerous landslides may occur across the mountains, with a couple of large, damaging debris flows/slope failures possible.

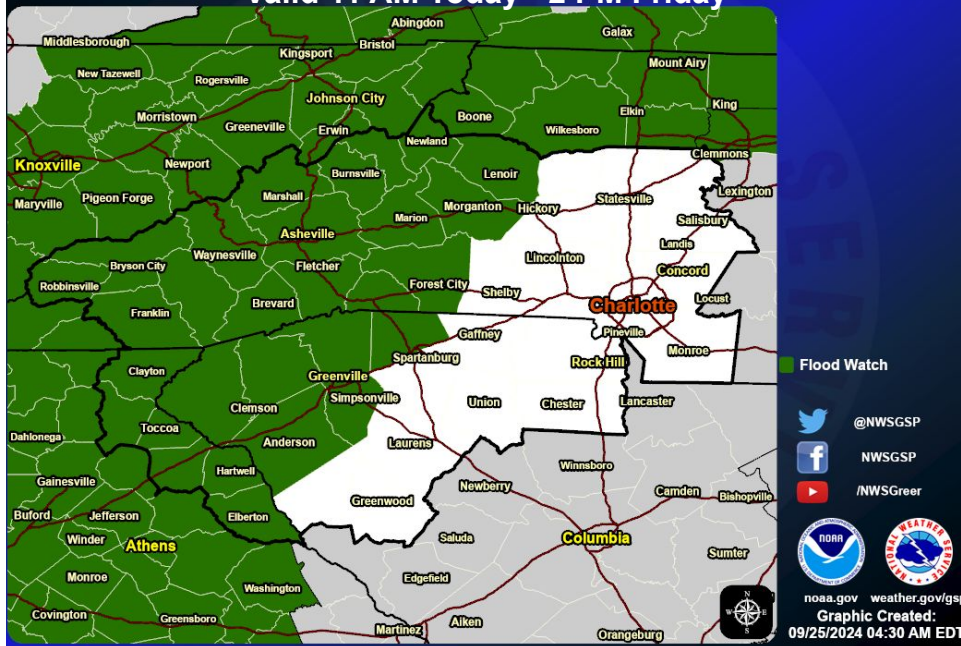


# Flood Watch

## Tropical Storm Helene

Note: The forecast will change between now and Wednesday night

National Weather Service Greenville/Spartanburg South Carolina  
Active Flood Watches  
Valid 11 AM Today - 2 PM Friday



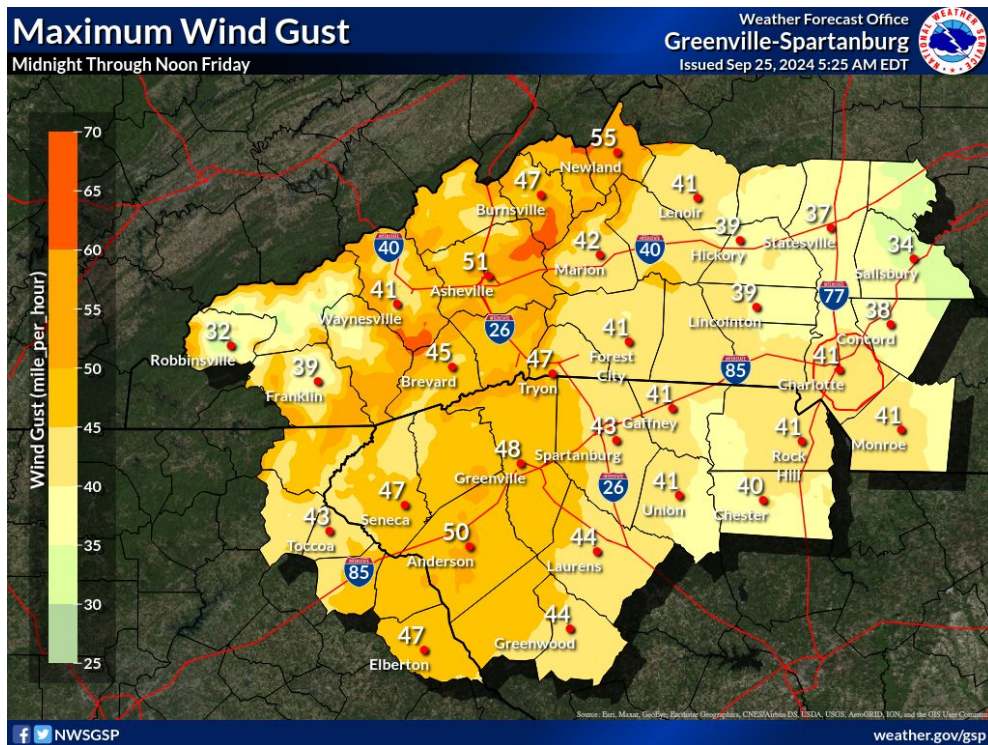
- Multiple rounds of heavy rainfall are expected due to the interaction of tropical moisture along a stationary front and Helene.
- The Flood Watch may expand further east in later forecast updates.
- This has the potential to be an extremely rare event with significant, damaging, and life-threatening flash flooding along numerous streams.





# Max Wind Gusts

Tropical Storm Helene

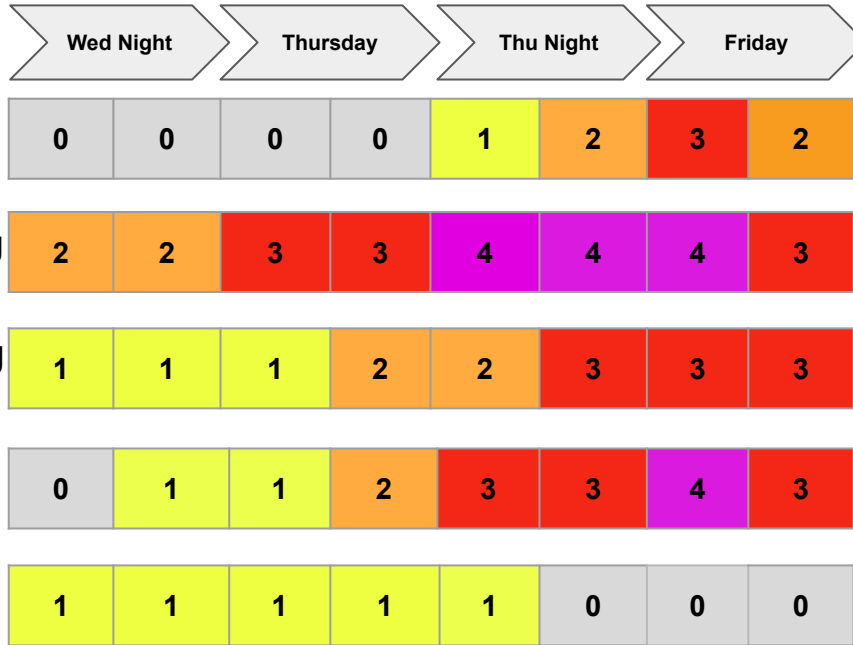


- Wind gusts of 35 to 50 mph are likely across most of the forecast area from late Thursday night through Friday morning.
- Gusts as high as 60 mph could be seen across northeast Georgia, the western Upstate, and the North Carolina mountains.
- The combination of strong wind gusts and saturated soils will likely result in numerous downed trees, with scattered to numerous power outages possible.



# Timeline for Greatest Impacts & Key Messages

## Tropical Storm Helene



### Impacts Legend

- 0 Little to No Impact
- 1 Minor Impact
- 2 Moderate Impact
- 3 High Impact
- 4 Extreme Impact

## Key Messages

- The potential exists for widespread flash flooding, which could be locally severe and life-threatening. Mainstem river flooding is also expected, with major flooding possible.
- Wind gusts of 35 to 45 mph are currently expected across much of our area, with 45 to 60 mph gusts possible across the western part of our area. Numerous downed trees and at least scattered power outages are likely.
- A small threat for isolated tornadoes will develop later today and continue through Thursday evening.



# Local Resources

Tropical Storm Helene

## Next Briefing:

### Another Live Webinar Will be Held Today. Time TBD



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