• The weather for the end of June brings good news to the State, increased rain chances for much of this week that will bring the potential for some much needed rainfall.

• Even though high pressure will be in the region, flow around the high will bring in moisture from the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. In addition, a cold front and associated disturbances approaching the region will also bring enough energy to help generate shower and thunderstorm activity across much of the state through Wednesday.

• Rain chances will be above normal around 30%-50% across northern Florida on Monday and Tuesday, with a 60%-70% chance of activity across Central and South Florida on Monday and a 40%-60% chance of rain across the same areas on Tuesday.

• This weather pattern will continue into Wednesday and Thursday with a 40%-60% chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly in the afternoon and evening.

• Towards the end of the week, high pressure will move north and dominate the region, but continued moisture from the ocean will keep a 30%-40% chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms across the state for the upcoming holiday weekend.

• In all, rainfall amounts could reach 2"-3" across portions of Central and South Florida over the next few days with all of the storms activity, with 1"-1.5" of rain possible along the I-10 corridor of North Florida.

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While this will be beneficial, it will not be enough to erase our drought, which is at extreme to exceptional levels across Northwest Florida and along the Treasure Coast and Southeast Florida. While much of the state will still need about 12” of rain to erase the drought, 1”-3” will help in the short term.

However, storms each day could be on the strong to severe side and bring gusty winds and hail up to 1” in diameter, as well as frequent lightning strikes and locally heavy rainfall.

So if you see dark thunderstorm clouds approaching your location or your hear thunder or see lightning, get into a safe place of shelter and wait until it is safe to go outside. If you’re on the road, use caution and slow down and do not drive through flooded roadways or roads with storm debris on them.

Before the storms arrive each day, temperatures could reach the low and mid 90s across North Florida and into the upper 80s to lower 90s across Central and South Florida. However, it’s North Florida areas that may see heat index values reach as high as 100 to 102 degrees in the afternoon for the first half of the week.

For the second half of the week, temperatures will be similar with upper 80s to low 90s expected for the Peninsula and low to mid 90s across much of Northwest Florida, although a few northern inland locations could get into the upper 90s in the afternoon. However, with slightly lower rain chances and increased humidity, heat index values statewide could reach the triple digit mark as high as 102 degrees through the weekend.

Overnight lows will also be mild with mid 70s expected for much of the state each night, although some inland locations could dip into the lower 70s with coastal areas a little warmer in the upper 70s.

Taking a look at the tropics, after a fairly quiet first month of hurricane season in terms of tropical activity, we’re beginning to watch a disturbance near the Yucatan Peninsula for possible development.

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The National Hurricane Center is currently indicating a 20% chance of formation within the next 48 hours, but once the system emerges into the Bay of Campeche and southwestern Gulf of Mexico, conditions could become more favorable for this system to possibly become the first named storm of the season. If this occurs, it could be named Tropical Depression #1 or Tropical Storm Arlene.

Regardless of development, it looks like this will not impact Florida as steering current move the system west-northwest into northern Mexico or southern Texas later this week.

As always, for the latest updates on the tropics and the local forecast for your area, visit www.FloridaDisaster.org and click on the Division’s homepage.

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