Press Release (#109-26) | **CITY OF MARATHON**
9805 Overseas Highway Marathon, Florida 33050
305-743-0033

For Immediate Release:

King Tide could add to rainfall woes

MARATHON, FL (Sept. 22, 2026) – The National Weather Service issued a Coastal Flood Statement on Tuesday, Sept. 22, due to the approaching next spring tide cycle, also known as King Tide, combined with a half-foot higher-than-normal rainfall potential.

NWS Key West Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jon Rizzo said in his second public safety briefing any heavy downpours occurring during the mid-morning hours Wednesday morning could result in more street and poor drainage area flooding than what would normally occur.

Rizzo said total rainfall over the next three days – through Friday morning – could be in the 2.5- to 4-inch range, with a 10% chance in the 4- to 6-inch range.

Rizzo said briefings are schedule for the remainder of the week and will be issued daily at 9:30 a.m.

To see the NWS Key West briefing in its entirety, visit https://www.weather.gov/media/key/DSS/dssbrief_land.pdf .

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National Weather Service
National Weather Service - Florida Keys

Monroe County

Public Safety Weather Briefing

Heavy Rainfall Potential

Tuesday, Sep 22, 2026
9:30 AM EDT

Prepared by:
Jon Rizzo, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Office: (305) 295-1316 x223 Mobile: (305) 240-0248
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Key Messages

Locally Heavy Rainfall Potential through Thursday

- Poor drainage street, parking lot and low lying area flooding is possible during and shortly after any heavy downpours.
    - Those living and/or working in areas prone to frequent rainfall flooding should keep tuned for additional weather information throughout the week and this weekend.
- A **COASTAL FLOOD STATEMENT IS IN EFFECT** for minor saltwater flooding of low elevation streets and lots. The risk for rainfall-impacted flooding will be highest during:
    - Today through Thursday time frame
    - The hours of the higher high tide, generally around sunrise through the mid-morning hours

Potential Rainfall Amounts

- The chances for rainfall exceeding 2 inches within 24 hours is expected to be as high as 1-in-3 today, and about 1-in-5 tonight through Wednesday.
- Total Rainfall over the next 3 days (through Friday morning, Sep. 25th) is most likely to be in the 2.5 to 4.0 inch range, with a 10 percent chance of totalling in the 4.0 to 6 inch range.

National Weather Service - Key West, FL

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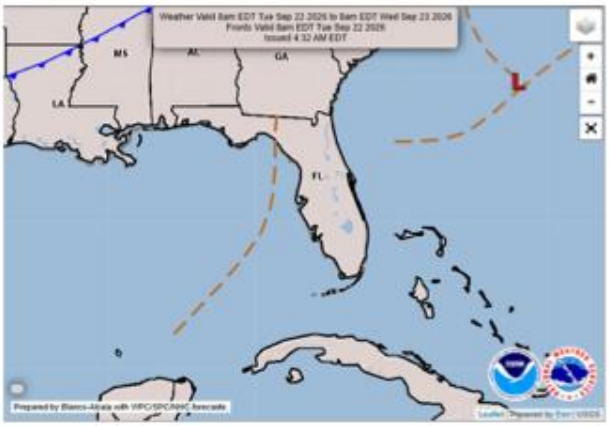
Weather Synopsis

A broad, weak trough of low pressure to the northwest of the Florida Keys is expected to gradually dissipate by Wednesday. A meandering stationary front early Thursday is forecast to approach the Florida Keys from the north Friday through Saturday, stalling near the Florida Keys or Straits of Florida later this weekend, then possibly returning northward early next week.

Deep, tropical moisture remains in place, supporting higher-than-average rain chances throughout this week into early next week. The threat of heavy downpours with a marginal potential for street and poor drainage area flooding will continue through Thursday as deep tropical moisture streams northward east of the weak trough from the western Caribbean. There remains low confidence in the potential for additional heavy rainfall associated with the stalling front late this weekend into early next week.

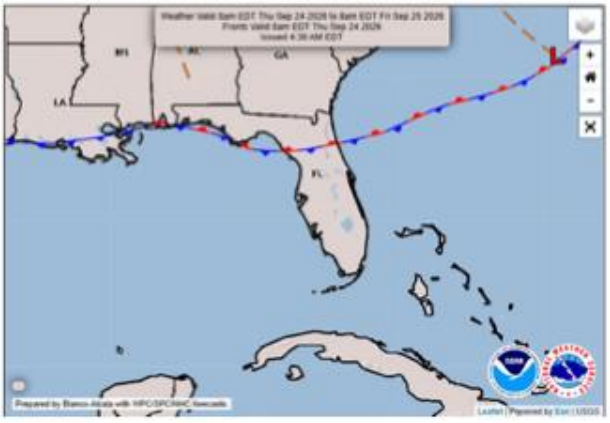
Tuesday morning forecast:

Weak trough of low pressure over the Eastern Gulf.



Thursday morning forecast:

Weak trough having dissipated, a stationary front over north Florida poised to head southward towards the Keys late this week.



National Weather Service - Key West, FL

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Rainfall Probability

Chance of 24 hr Precipitation Greater Than 2 in

Tuesday Evening, Sep 22 - Monday Evening, Sep 28

	Tue 9/22	Wed 9/23	Thu 9/24	Fri 9/25	Sat 9/26	Sun 9/27	Mon 9/28
Big Coppitt Key	20%	10%	3%	0%	1%	5%	5%
Big Pine Key	40%	20%	5%	1%	2%	10%	10%
Islamorada	10%	20%	5%	0%	2%	5%	5%
Key Largo	15%	20%	5%	1%	3%	5%	5%
Key West	20%	20%	4%	1%	4%	5%	10%
Marathon	40%	15%	5%	3%	2%	10%	10%

Percent Chance (%)

Valid: Tue 08 pm EDT - Mon 08 pm EDT Issued: Tue, Sep 22, 2026, 8 am EDT

The above table shows the chance for rainfall over a 24-hour period (ending at the times listed at the top of each column) to exceed 2 inches.

In this situation, rainfall will tend to fall in shorter-duration downpours. Therefore, this table may provide use in roughly predicting the chance that rainfall could produce temporary street and poor-drainage flooding in the most flood-prone and king tide-impacted areas.

National Weather Service - Florida Keys

City of Marathon Florida

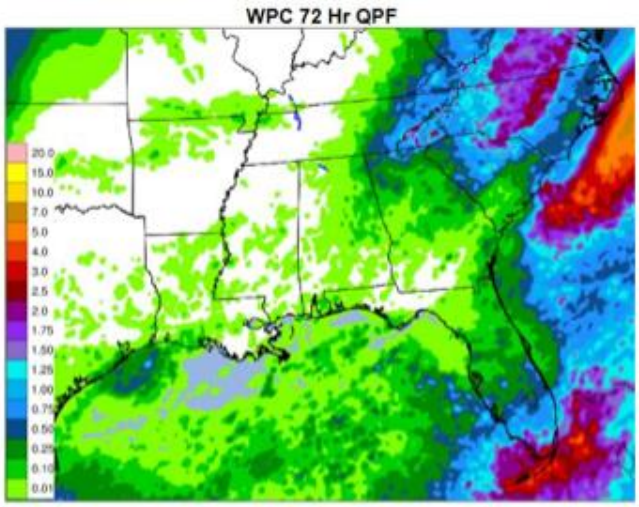
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Potential Rainfall Amounts

Today through 8:00 am EDT Friday Morning

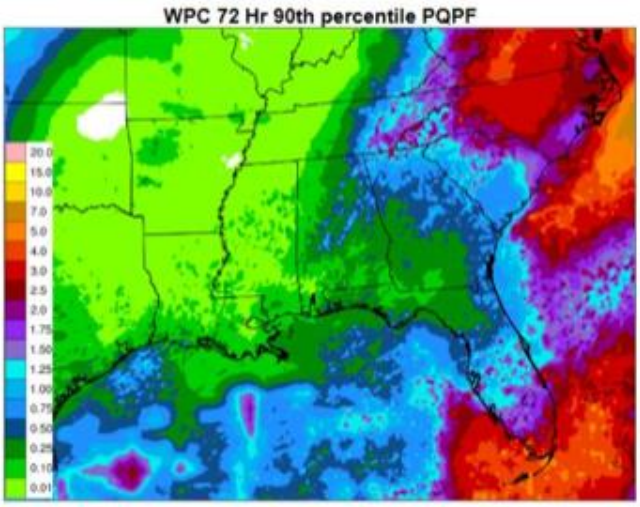
Most Likely Next 3 Days' Rainfall Amounts:

2 ½ to 4 inches throughout the Florida Keys



1-in-10 Chance of Exceeding Next 3 Days' Rainfall Amounts:

4 to 6 inches throughout the Florida Keys



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National Weather Service
National Weather Service - Florida Keys

Next Briefing: Wednesday, Sep 23, 2026
9:30 AM EDT

For Tactical Weather Operations Support
Contact NWS Florida Keys Operations 24/7 at (305) 295-1316 x3

Prepared by:
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