

Will we get snow Sunday and Monday? Maybe yes, maybe no

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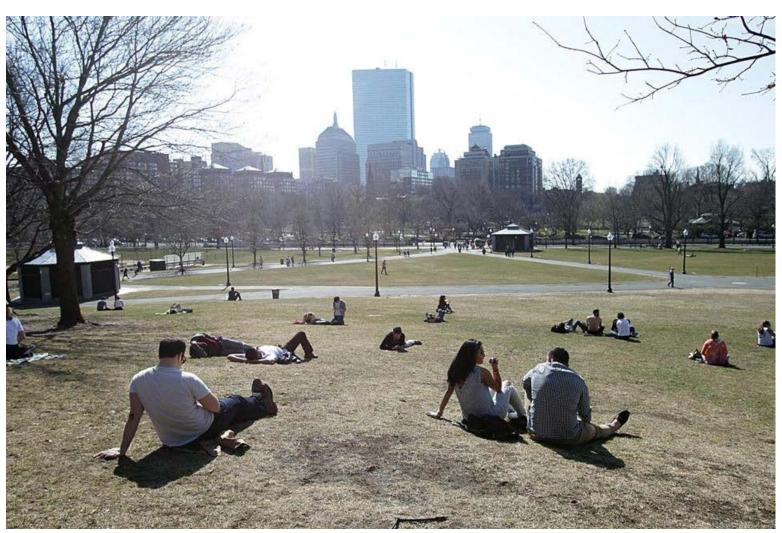
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Boston has experienced an unusually mild weather so far, but winter could strike back.

By Matt Rocheleau

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Will winter strike back?

After months of unusually mild, snow-free weather, the Boston area could get a blast of wintry conditions next week. Or it could get nothing at all.

Forecasters at the National Weather Service say they are closely monitoring a looming cold front and a potential storm.

"It still remains uncertain whether a coastal storm will bring significant rain and/or snow to the region late Sunday into Monday, or pass harmlessly out to sea," meteorologists from the weather service's Taunton office wrote Wednesday morning.



The storm would follow a cold front that forecasters expect to descend on the region Friday. By early Friday morning, temperatures will be in the 20s with blustery conditions putting wind chills in the teens.

"Quite a change from our recent weather!" forecasters said.

With that cold air in place, it could mean snow for the potential storm at the end of the weekend.

Forecasters at AccuWeather.com said the intensity and duration of the storm will depend on the track it takes after it forms over the Southern states and moves northward along the Atlantic Seaboard.

"Should the storm track right along the coast, all or mostly rain will fall in the Interstate-95 corridor with the potential for a heavy snowfall farther to the northwest,"

AccuWeather.com said in a statement Tuesday.

"Should the storm travel just off the coast, there will be a greater chance for heavy wet snow in the swath from Washington, D.C., to Philadelphia, New York City, and Boston," the release added. "In

another scenario, the storm could swing too far east to bring heavy snow to the mid-Atlantic, but it could still make a turn toward New England."

If it does snow, forecasters at AccuWeather.com said, because of the recent warmth and the strength of the sun this time of year, snow would have to fall at a heavy clip to accumulate on roads during daytime hours.

AccuWeather.com Chief Meteorologist Elliot Abrams said there are many unknowns about the potential storm.

"This far out there are many variables that could affect the track of the storm, which has not formed yet, so it is too early to call one way or another," Abrams said in a statement. "As more pieces of the puzzle are put in place, we will be able to make the call as to whether the storm will head out to sea or hug the coast."

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