



METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES & ARUBA

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PRESS RELEASE

Change in Public Forecast format and issuance times

Starting today, Monday, February 9, the public weather forecast for all islands of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba will be issued three times a day and the format of these bulletins will also have a slightly different appearance. The forecast bulletins for both the ABC Islands and the SSS Islands will now have the same look. The issuance times for both bulletins will be at 6 A.M., 12 P.M. and 6 P.M. The forecasts will be valid through respectively 6 A.M., 12 P.M. and 6 P.M. of the next day.

Both bulletins will indicate the period of validity and the update time at the top of the page, followed by the forecast weather. Watches or warnings will be announced through a lead sentence which will appear just above the "Weather" section. This section will now also include the forecast high and low temperature and the times of sunrise and sunset during the forecast period.

The next section shows the forecast surface winds and it is followed by respectively the Synopsis, Sea Conditions, Special Features, Further Outlook sections and finally the forecaster's name. During the hurricane season (June 1 through November 30) a "Tropical Weather Systems" section will be added which contains some information about active tropical cyclones and/or tropical waves in the Atlantic Basin, which may become of significance to our islands.

The "Special Features" section will contain information about for instance volcanic ash clouds which are of interest to our islands, earthquakes which were observed on our islands and upcoming solar or lunar eclipses.

In case of the sudden threat of severe weather or hazardous sea conditions, a Special Bulletin will be issued which will contain information about or watches or warnings for heavy rain and lightning, strong winds, funnel clouds, rough seas and information on possible tsunamis.

In case of the threat of tropical cyclones, the already existing warning system for tropical storms and hurricanes will be applied.
