



# NC Severe Storms: Hazards in Every Season

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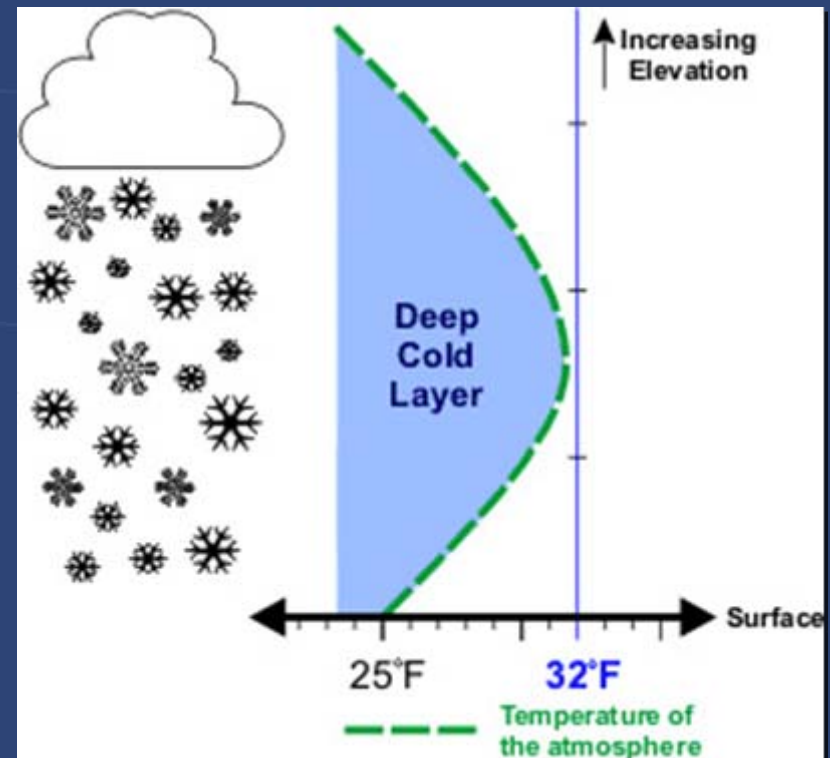
# Hazards in every Season

- Winter
  - Freezing rain, Snow, Cold
- Spring
  - Severe thunderstorms, lightning, tornadoes
- Summer
  - As in spring, plus heat, hurricanes
- Autumn
  - Hurricanes



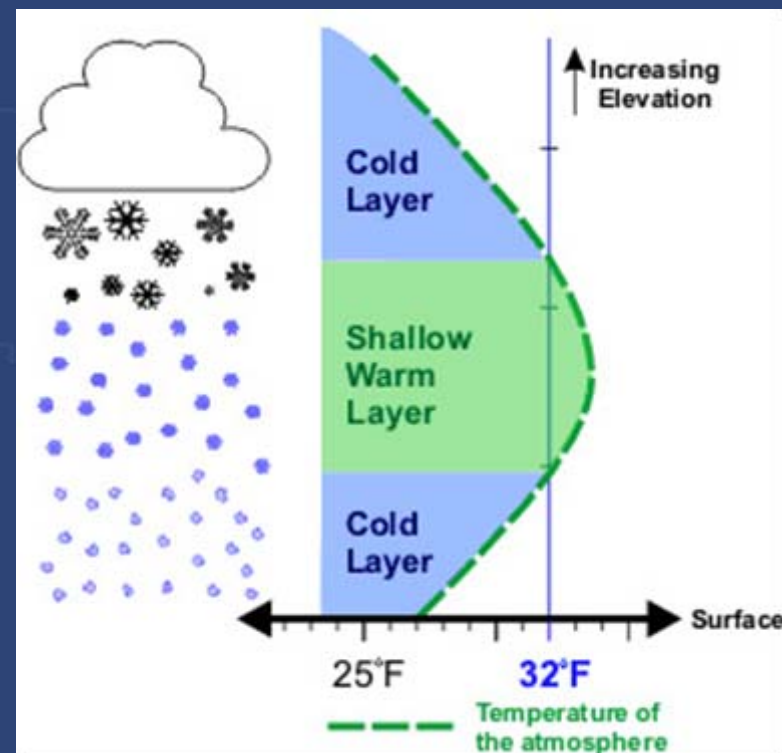
# Winter: Snow

- Heavy snow potential in every county
- Usually melts within days to weeks
- Road hazards due to snow, ice, freezing melt
- Occasional power outages, usually limited
- Potentially large spatial extent



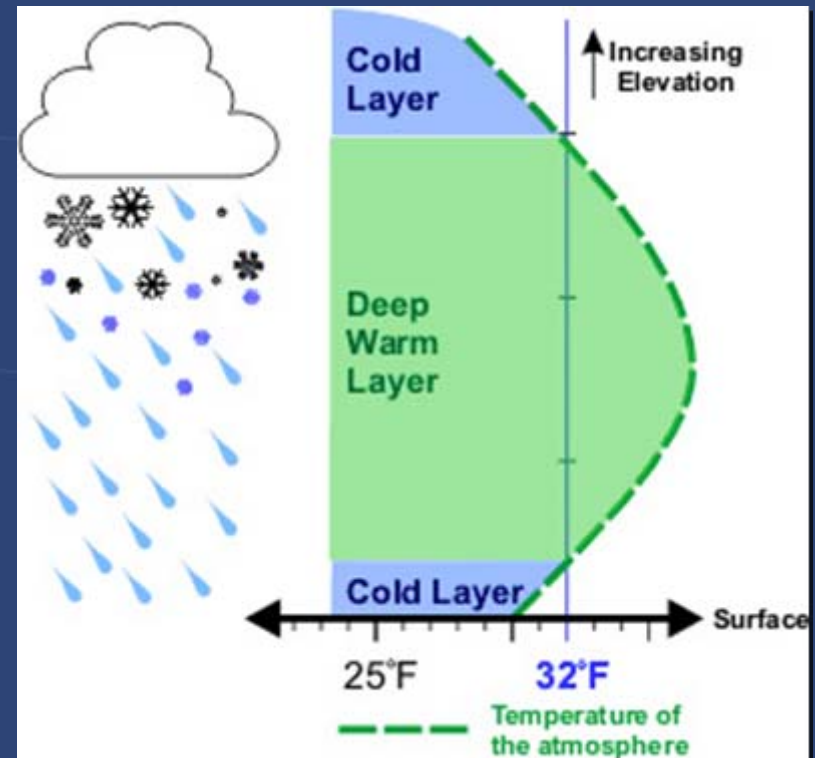
# Winter: Sleet

- Highest risk in Piedmont
- Ice pellets accumulate on roads, ground
- Lasts minutes to hours
- Icy roads for hours
- Power outages rare
- Limited spatial extent



# Winter: Freezing Rain

- Highest risk in Piedmont
- Usually lasts hours
- Ice build-up on trees, power lines
- Often causes power outages, which can last days
- Rarely, some road icing (bridges)
- Potentially large spatial extent



# Spring, Summer: Thunderstorms

- Lightning – potential from every thunderstorm
  - Impossible to predict specific strikes
  - Lightning not a criteria for “severe”
- Tornadoes – rare, but devastating
  - Minutes of warning for specific locations
- Damaging straight-line winds
- Urban, small stream flash flooding



# Summer, Autumn: Hurricanes

- Coastal risk: storm surge, damaging winds
  - Evacuation often required
- Statewide risk of flooding from rain
  - Causes more damage, injury than wind
- Back-to-back storms are common, usually devastating
- Days of warning

