

Flash flooding and high winds are possible Wednesday and Thursday in the Texarkana region as Hurricane Laura tracks north.

Laura is expected to intensify over the Gulf of Mexico and become a major hurricane prior to striking upper Texas or southwest Louisiana coasts late WED or early Thursday.

Specific impacts locally will be determined by Laura's track northward from Louisiana and Texas into Arkansas. Full impact is expected Thursday afternoon when several inches of rain is expected, according to the National Weather Service.

Flash flooding will be a concern and even as Laura moves into THE area. A Tropical Storm Conditions Watch has been issued for our area. It is likely Laura will maintain tropical storm strength which means sustained winds of 30 to 40 mph with gusts up to 50 mph, according to the NWS.

Ground that is already saturated could be a concern, said Miller County Office of Emergency Management Director Joe Bennett.

"Since we have endured heavy rainfall recently, we could see downed trees due to saturated ground. There is a possibility of 4 to 6 inches of rainfall depending on how fast the storm moves through our area, so flash flooding could occur between Thursday morn from 7 a.m. to Friday morning at 7 a.m." Bennett said.

Isolated tornadoes could also be possible.