OVERVIEW
A tropical disturbance meandering in the southwest Gulf of Mexico will generate wet weather for us this weekend. The disturbance, with a 90% chance of development into a tropical depression, will move generally northward and westward over the next few days (Figure 1). Most intensity model guidance keeps the low at tropical depression strength however, a weak tropical storm cannot be ruled out. Either way, the impacts here should not change too much with prolonged periods of heavy rainfall as the main hazard. Rainfall amounts will likely be in the 2-3 inch range with isolated accumulations up to 4-6 inches in heavier bands. If the storm does reach tropical storm intensity, wind gusts could increase enough to bring down some trees due to saturated grounds. As for now, the forecast wind gusts are not particularly threatening (20-25mph).

While there is not much uncertainty with the intensity forecast, there remains considerable uncertainty in the track of the system. The above forecast is dependent on the track of the low. In Figure 2, you can see that some models take the storm on a westward path inland and some farther east. Most models fall somewhere in between. With this system, the precipitation shield is unbalanced with the eastern side receiving the brunt of the precipitation and the western side rather dry. Because of this imbalance, a westward or eastward shift in the track will greatly affect our rainfall amounts. The track of the disturbance should come into better focus tomorrow and Saturday. If you have an outdoor event scheduled for Sunday, you may want to begin to implement your rain plans. As of right now, Saturday daytime events will likely not be impacted. We will continue to monitor this situation and release another update tomorrow.
PRIMARY HAZARDS
The primary hazards for Atlanta will be from prolonged, heavy rainfall.

TIMING
Rainfall should begin to impact the area late Saturday night and last through Monday morning.

NEXT STEPS
- The Georgia Tech Police Department Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.
- Follow the GT Office of Emergency Management on twitter @gtpdalerts.
- For the latest forecast information, please visit the National Weather Service at http://weather.gov/atlanta.