



## New shingles at Pebble Beach apartments

New, class 4, high wind and hail resistant shingles were placed on both Pebble Beach four-plexes and garages last week by JP Limited, LLC out of Sioux Falls. The job is now complete and the new shingles are in place. The Clark Housing and Redevelopment Commission is in charge of the apartments. Members of this committee are Trevor Forest, president, Terry Schlager, Desi Lamb, Jon Moeller and Bill Krikac. Lori King is the executive director of the HRC.

## 2022 Fall and Early Winter Climate Outlook

Laura Edwards  
SDSU Extension State Climatologist  
The warmth of September is likely to continue into October in South Dakota, according to the latest climate outlook released on September 15.

The climate outlook, issued by NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, also indicates odds leaning towards drier than average conditions in October.

Together, these predictions point towards lingering or developing drought in the month ahead, even as the growing season comes to an end. In the last several weeks, South Dakota has been drier than average and warmer than average. Even though crops, gardens, yards and pastures are in need of less moisture in September than in peak summer season, the landscape is drying out quickly this fall. The decades-long climate trend in South Dakota is towards wetter fall seasons, but this fall has been an anomaly so far. Fall moisture often does not contribute much (if anything) to yields of our warm-season crops, hay or vegetable gardens, but

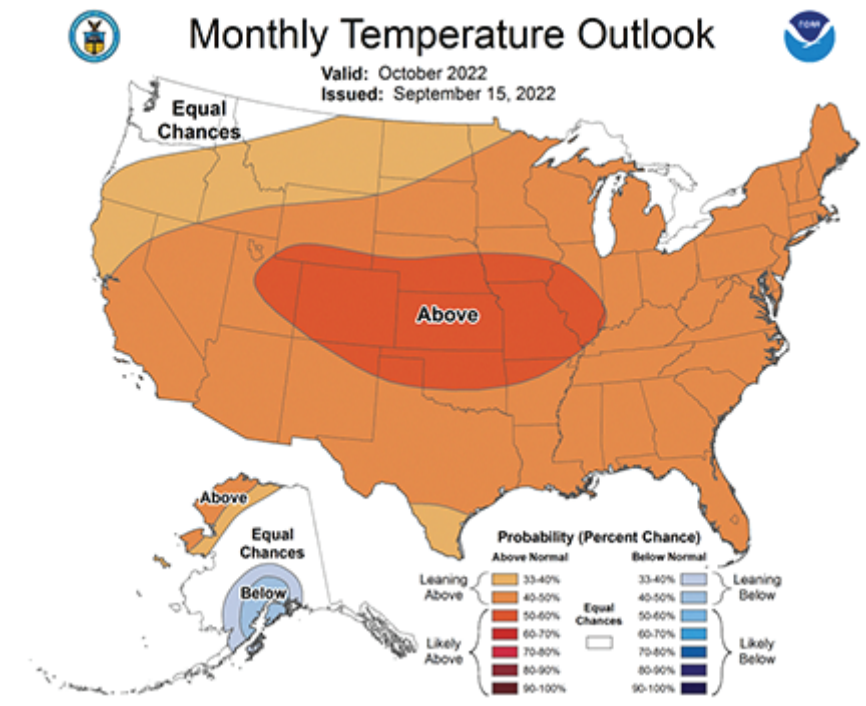


Figure 1. October 2022 temperature outlook indicates increased chances for warmer than average conditions in South Dakota. Source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center

it can replenish our soil moisture for next year's growing season and refill our stock ponds for livestock.

Looking ahead to the final three months of 2022, the climate pattern

### Three-Month Outlook

### Climate Outlook (continued on page 6)

## School enrollment numbers are stable

School is off to a quick start in the area with October just around the corner. Homecoming is done in Clark, Willow Lake and Henry and this Friday, official school enrollment numbers are due to the South Dakota Department of Education, in Pierre.

Enrollment numbers are very stable at area schools, with Willow Lake seeing with a bump in enrollment. Many factors come into play as to the demographics of school growth, or decline, and it is somewhat refreshing to see stability in the rural areas.

The Clark County Courier visited with the three area superintendents this week to talk about what is going on at their school, as summer was a good time to make infrastructure, curriculum and updates and upgrades to programs.

In Clark, superintendent Travis Ahrens was pleased that just recently the district had picked up a couple of extra students.

"As far as building improvements, we've improved security/doors and have new bathrooms in the Voss wing of the elementary," he said.

The superintendent stated that as well as new toilets and sinks, there is another bathroom at the elementary for staff.

"At the elementary, we moved the teacher workroom to the old lunch room and we opened up area for storage," he said.

"Regarding enrollment, (elementary principal) Jon (Redmond) and I are looking at projections, especially in the preschool area, so we have adequate space."

In Willow Lake, superintendent Chris Lee said normal summer maintenance has taken place, and the school has signed a purchase agreement with the dance studio

owned by Tim and Holly Bratland. The school board will determine what to do with that property, as it currently is the planning stages.

The Willow Lake superintendent stated that there currently are 324 students in the district schools.

"Those are good numbers," Lee said, as it is an increase of 75 plus since he came in 2017. "With these good enrollment numbers come growing pains," he said, as it effects lunch time, bus routes, classroom space and everything in between."

Space is definitely a priority in Willow Lake to accommodate all different things, he continued, and gave an example of having art classes in the lunch room.

Look for more information to come as Willow Lake School, superintendent Todd Obele said the emphasis slogan is 'SOARR' short for Safe, Ownership, Accountability, Respect and Responsibility.

"This is our motto for all students," Obele said.

Also implemented this year are RTI, which stands for response to intervention, and aims to identify students who are struggling in school. Another implemented new programs is PBIS, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, which will help student daily outcomes.

A professional development program, involving positivity and moving forward in the school environment, 'certified energy bus school,' based on the book by John Gordon - The Energy Bus, is also working well, ended Obele.

Clark	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Pre-school	29	21	31	33
Kindergarten	30	27	20	30
Grade 1	25	32	30	24

Grade 2	20	27	31	32
Grade 3	19	18	27	32
Grade 4	35	24	20	28
Grade 5	20	40	22	22
Grade 6	29	20	37	23
Grade 7	19	31	21	40
Grade 8	23	22	33	24
Grade 9	25	24	25	33
Grade 10	29	23	27	24
Grade 11	20	29	25	24
Grade 12	13	20	28	22
Fordham	34	36	38	37
Hillcrest	29	29	30	29
Silverlake	38	34	32	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>484</b>

Willow Lake	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Pre-school	20	16	25	21
Kindergarten	22	20	18	26
Grade 1	15	18	18	17
Grade 2	18	15	19	21
Grade 3	16	17	14	21
Grade 4	22	16	18	17
Grade 5	12	22	17	21
Grade 6	18	13	24	18
Grade 7	16	17	13	25
Grade 8	12	14	17	15
Grade 9	16	14	14	18
Grade 10	16	15	15	15
Grade 11	23	18	12	15
Grade 12	9	23	17	9
Shamrock	14	16	20	20
Mayfield	22	25	29	28
Collins	15	16	17	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>323</b>

Henry	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Pre-school	16	11	6	13
Kindergarten	8	11	19	13
Grade 1	14	8	11	17
Grade 2	15	13	8	9
Grade 3	12	14	14	12
Grade 4	12	9	15	13
Grade 5	13	16	10	17
Grade 6	8	14	16	14
Grade 7	16	10	15	14
Grade 8	12	19	11	14
Grade 9	15	13	18	11
Grade 10	12	16	12	18
Grade 11	13	11	19	11
Grade 12	10	10	13	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>193</b>

## WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
September 20.....	85	57	0
September 21.....	86	51	0
September 22.....	67	43	0
September 23.....	64	43	0
September 24.....	65	43	0.16
September 25.....	63	46	0.01
September 26.....	69	46	0
2022 precipitation to date	18.02		
2021 precipitation to date	18.07		

## Fourth Annual Harvest Festival takes place in Clark this weekend

If looking for something fall season inspired to do with family and friends this Saturday, come out and participate in this year's Harvest Festival. The event is sponsored by the Clark Area Chamber of Commerce.

Events and games will take place on Main street in Clark beginning with a ping pong toss at 2:00 p.m. located behind Dacotah Bank.

Bring your kids and participate in some fun activities while indulging in treats like cotton candy, snow cones and more.

Face painting, bouncy houses and an all age pumpkin decorating contest are just some of the activities offered. Grab a sweater and enjoy one of the potential last nice days of the season in the Clark community.

## Absentee voting began Friday, September 23

Friday, September 23 was the official opening for absentee voters to place their ballot in Clark county. Absentee voting is for voters who are unable to make it to the polls on Election Day. Originally, absentee voting was incorporated into the U.S. Constitution in 1864 to provide civil war soldiers the opportunity to cast their votes. In recent times, with the effects of covid-19, 2020 saw absentee voting gain popularity with an average of 600 absentee votes placed in Clark county.

There are many benefits to absentee voting in addition to taking health precautions with the spread of covid-19 including: mobility or transportation issues on election day, not physically being in your voting district on election day and avoiding the line and waiting on election day.

A voter absentee request is a form that must be completed in order to successfully place an absentee vote. The voter absentee request form can be obtained by downloading and printing from the South Dakota Secretary of State website, calling the Clark County Auditor and requesting the form be sent through the mail or appearing in

person at the Clark County Auditor located in the Clark County Courthouse between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday or the same hours on Fridays with the exception of a closure from 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m.

If the form is being filled out and mailed back to the Clark County Auditor or dropped off in person, a government issued photo identification such as a passport, drivers license or school identification is required by photocopy or in person. Alternatively, the absentee voter request can be signed and notarized to avoid sending in a photocopy of identification. The signatures on the form must be original, meaning the hard copy will need to be returned to fulfill the requirements successfully.

For community members that choose to vote via absentee voting, the deadlines for votes to be counted in the election are due either in person by 5:00 p.m. the day before election day or via mail by 3:00 p.m. (delivered to the auditor) on Election Day. This year's Election Day

### Absentee Voting (continued on page 6)



## Last home game is Friday at Clark Sports Complex

This Friday, at the Clark High School Sports Complex, the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones will play host to Dakota Hills, in the final home football game of the season.

Dakota Hills is comprised of Waubay, Summit and Wilmot. The Cyclones are 3-3 on the season and unofficially seeded 14th in the Class 11B standings, with the top 16 qualifying for the playoffs.

Clark-Willow Lake has a bye the first week of October and then finish

the regular season at Aberdeen Roncalli.

The Cyclones defeated Moberge, Friday, in Moberge. Quarterback Trey Huber hands the ball to running-back Cole Brenden. Cyclones line play was very important in the win over the Tigers. Left to right are: 61 - James Poppen, 60 - Christian Ramirez, 54 - Braydon Johnson, 56 - Cole Heiman, 50 - Collin Gaikowski and 32 - Kaplan Felberg.