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As we enter the month of March, signs of spring are finally beginning to show. Lon days, warmer temperatures, but also an increase in severe weather. The National Weather Service calls the months of March through May spring severe weather season; a time when thunderstorms, extremely high winds, and other severe weather can be stronger and more consistent. Severe weather during any season can develop quickly, making preparation key. Whether you're a Tempest owner or just looking for better ways to stay weather-aware this season, here's a few things to keep in mind to help you stay ahead of spring storms.

STORM SIGNS AND ALERTS

- Watch for sudden drops in barometric pressure, increased winds, and rising humidity—all early indicators of storm activity.
- Lightning can strike before the rain—follow the 30-30 rule: If you hear thunder within 30 seconds of seeing lightning, take cover immediately. Tempest owners receive lightning detection alerts for strikes up to 25 miles away.
- Strong winds can cause damage even before a storm arrives—secure outdoor items and stay aware of changing conditions. Tempest owners can enable high wind alerts in the app for real-time updates.

SMART WEATHER SAFETY

- Use smart technology to automate storm precautions—some systems can close shutters, turn on lights, or pause irrigation when severe weather approaches.
- Check local weather forecasts and emergency alerts regularly to stay ahead of changing conditions. Resources like the National Weather Service and local meteorologists provide valuable updates.

Spring weather is unpredictable, but the right tools and preparation make all the difference. Read our full article on spring storm preparedness to get more insights and tips to be ready to weather any storm this season.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE

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🟆 BEST OVERALL PICK

The Tempest Weather Station was named **Best Overall Pick** by *The Spruce* after testing over 15 different weather stations! The review evaluated accuracy, connectivity, ease of installation, and smart home integration—putting each system to the test in real-world conditions. With its ultra-accurate sensors, lightning-fast data updates, and effortless setup, Tempest stood out as the top choice.

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GARDEN SMARTER WITH TEMPEST AND LIFEHACKER

Looking to grow a healthier, more resilient garden? Check out Tempest's feature in *Lifehacker* in their **Best Tech Tools for Gardeners**, showcasing how real-time, hyperlocal weather insights can take the guesswork out of watering, frost protection, and more. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, Tempest helps you make smarter decisions for your plants.

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SPRING INTO ACTION WITH DIY OUTDOOR PROJECTS

The term "spring cleaning" doesn't have to be contained to just indoor projects. With the temperatures getting warmer and the days getting longer, it's not too early to start planning and even executing some of the outdoor projects on your to-do list. Whether it be cleaning up and refreshing outdoor spaces after winter, seasonal maintenance, or finally getting around to something on your yard or garden wish now is the time to start thinking about what outdoor projects you're going to tackle this spring. Need some inspiration? Check out our list of DIY outdoor projects that implement smart technology into your outside spaces.

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CHOCOLATE PRICES ARE HEATING UP

Chocolate lovers, brace yourselves. Prices are skyrocketing, and climate change is a big reason why. Extreme weather in West Africa, where most of the world's cocoa is grown, has led to lower yields and record-breaking cocoa prices. At the same time, brands are using shrinkflation by keeping prices steady while making chocolate bars smaller. Unfortunately, your next sweet treat might cost you more (or give you less) if you look carefully the next time you're browsing the chocolate or candy aisle.

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