



# WeatherWorks



## THE WEATHER TRACKER

<http://www.weatherworksinc.com>

PO BOX 7100  
HACKETTSTOWN, NJ 07840  
(908) 850-8600

Edited by:  
Sean Rowland and  
Ken Elliott

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### Coldest November High Temperatures



Mount Pocono, PA	23
Worcester, MA	24
Hartford, CT	29
Boston, MA	29
Islip, NY	31
Allentown, PA	32
New York, NY	32
Trenton, NJ	34
Newark, NJ	34
Philadelphia, PA	35
Baltimore, MD	36
Washington, DC	37

## A Very Cold Second Half of November



West Chester, PA on 11-21-08 (from: [www.easternuswx.com/bb](http://www.easternuswx.com/bb))

Usually November is the time where most snow removers are getting equipment ready and making sure that everything is in place for when the season begins. Well that process certainly was expedited in places you wouldn't normally expect.

A dramatic change took place with a strong cold front on November 15th as the second half of the month produced some remarkably unusual cold (see the list of records and stats listed to the right). With the exception

of a brief wintry mix before rain on the 30th, these cold spells really did not bring any storms or even weak disturbances to the Northeast or Mid-Atlantic. However, the deep cold air came in on a Northwesterly flow, especially during the third week of the month.

This meant that the lake effect machine was roaring, especially with Great Lake temps on the warm side. So, New England was unusually spared from any accumulating snow. You actually had to go South to find snow in November. Hit the hardest was Pennsylvania and even Maryland/Delaware was affected. Lake effect snow showers and streamers were able to make it into these regions almost on a daily basis during the week period. The lake enhanced nature of

the event, made it tricky as to who and where the greatest snow threats were. The winners during this period (besides the Pocono's) was Chester County, PA as they saw the most frequent activity.

### Interesting Stats from November

- Nov 19-23 was only the 5th time in the 140 yr history of Central Park, NY's observation station that the high did not exceed 40 for five straight days in Nov.
- DC saw below average temps for 15 straight days (ending on Dec. 1)
- Philadelphia Airport received its first November inch of snow since Nov. 29, 1995.

## Unlimited Text Message Contacts: Forecast & Alert Clients

The new contact method of replacing a phone call from [WeatherWorks](http://WeatherWorks) to receiving a text message has been met with a very positive reaction as several organizations have made the switch to text messages. One of the advantages to text messages is that all of your snow contacts receive the message. **We also want to make sure that you know there can be an unlimited number of text message recipients, as long as they work for your organization.**

As opposed to phone calls, when only one person is reached, sev-

eral contacts can be notified. Remember that we would send a text-message for a heads-up that wintry precipitation is approaching and for any forecast changes that affect you near or during an event. If you just want the forecasts and alerts, simply do not select telephone calls or alerts.

The other item we wanted to make sure is clear is that your organization (as long as you are a forecast and alert client) can call [WeatherWorks](http://WeatherWorks) 24/7 for unlimited consultation. This also applies if you select

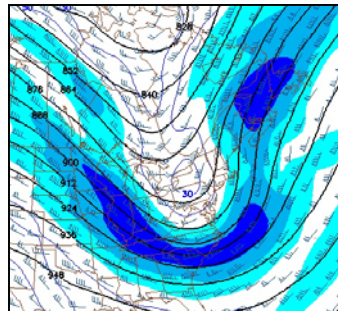
text messages, so do not hesitate to call us for questions on our forecasts or any other concerns. As always have a great season as the heart of the Winter season begins.



## Updated Winter Outlook

Now that Meteorological Winter has begun, and the first official day of winter is not far off, this is a good time to re-evaluate the Winter Forecast. The WeatherWorks Winter Forecast, as well as other forecasts generally suggested a chilly first half of the winter, and a busy start to the snow season. But even the forecasters that were most aggressive with early season snows probably were surprised by accumulating snow in Central NJ on October 28th and the 1-5 inches of snow in South-eastern Penn. on November 21

Despite the spell of seasonable temperatures to start December, it still looks like the month's



One model forecast of deep December cold air

temperatures will average out below normal with plenty of snow and ice threats, much like December 2007. Given general expected "troughiness" over the eastern half of the U.S., it's hard to see any kind of sustained warmth or dry periods.

Looking forward to the rest of the winter, the general trend of normalcy seems to still hold up, despite the recent cold stretch. Two months ago, WeatherWorks conservatively forecasted near normal temperatures late in the winter. Since then, confidence has increased some that milder conditions may prevail late in the season, so it could very well be an early Spring this year.

Even the belatedly issued NOAA Winter Forecast seems to back this trend, predicting near normal temperatures and precipitation patterns in the Eastern U.S. for the season, despite a cold and snowy start.

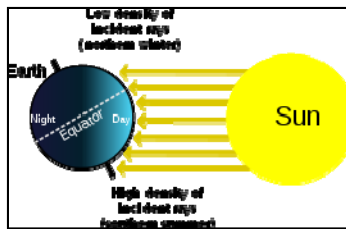
With winter preparations beginning in earnest thru October and November, the WeatherWorks blog was not updated as we set up for the season. We wanted to pass along that blog posts have now resumed, so make sure to check out the website ([www.weatherworksinc.com/blog.htm](http://www.weatherworksinc.com/blog.htm)).

The blog will feature some of our thinking and insight as we look at upcoming wintry events

## Don't be fooled by Early Winter sun angle

We have touched on sun angle briefly in past issues, however let's take a closer look at the sun's affects early in the season.

There is often a misconception that because November and early December are still typically warmer months (except in '08), the sun stays strong. In fact, the opposite actually is true. The sun angle from November to early December is the same as Mid January - February. We are typi-



Sun's affects in Early Winter

cally warmer because it is not until mid-Winter when the coldest air masses arrive and the sub-ground layer continues cooling. The date to remember

is the solstice. The first day of Winter (Dec. 21) is when the sun is directly over the Tropic of Capricorn. This is the sun's lowest point of the year in our area and it is our shortest day.

Keep this in mind, during early season events. Even though the ground may be warm, it is not due to a 'strong' sun. The impacts in melting from the sun are lessened as you get closer to that Dec. 21st date.

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH



[http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/images/2008hurricane\\_season.mp4](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/images/2008hurricane_season.mp4)

NOAA and the National Hurricane Center have released a summary of the 2008 season. In that summary is a remarkable time-lapse satellite video of the hurricane season. The satellite resolution on this movie is amazing!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec. 21 First Day of Winter
- Dec. 22 Hanukkah Begins
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day

### DECEMBER AVERAGES (30 year averages: 1971-2000)

	Boston, MA (BOS)		Newark, NJ (EWR)		Baltimore, MD (BWI)	
	Dec. 1	Dec 31	Dec. 1	Dec 31	Dec. 1	Dec 31
High Temp	46	38	48	39	51	42
Low Temp	33	24	35	26	31	24
Precip (Mo. Total)	3.73"		3.57"		3.35"	
Snowfall (Mo. Total)	6.4"		2.9"		1.7"	
Sunrise	6:54 AM	7:13 AM	7:02 AM	7:21 AM	7:08 AM	7:26 AM
Sunset	4:13 PM	4:22 PM	4:30 PM	4:39 PM	4:44 PM	4:53 PM

#### December 2008 Temperature Outlook

Temperatures are likely to average below normal during December. This should come from different cold snaps that appear at times thru the month.

#### December 2008 Precipitation Outlook

Precipitation should be near to slightly above average during the period. With some deep cold air masses, the likelihood for a major storm increases.