



# WeatherWorks



## THE WEATHER TRACKER

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For the First Half summary in NY and New England, see pg 2

December was a month of fluctuation across the region as there were several blasts of arctic air, yet also some brief warm-ups. The region was split into two sections during last month; south of the MD-PA line into DE and S. NJ, temps averaged a little bit above normal, despite the cold blasts. There were a few very minor winter events, but icing was much more common than snow. Only the December 6-7 event was able to produce area-wide measurable totals.

Despite the low snow totals, the Philadelphia and SNJ area experienced quite a bit of precip. Atlantic City saw over 7 inches of precipitation and the rest of NJ and PA, saw high amounts as well. The general rule was the further North one went, the more snow fell (as usual). Northern sections of NJ and PA picked up 10-25 inches of snow during the month. Likely the most sig-

nificant event was December 19th as a potent low tracked from West to East across the state. There was a swath of heavy snow from C. NJ - Lehigh Valley Northward

that at times produced snow rates up to an inch per hour. This was followed by a wintry mix or rain. Wintry mix and icing were a common theme thru the month as some areas had five separate icing events.

In January, it turned MUCH colder. From Jan. 9-21, many locations never saw the thermometer break 40. This included a brutally cold stretch on the 15th-17th that affected much of the country. Temps approached zero during the night-time and Sussex County, NJ even got as low as -15.



1-18-09 Heavy snow in Hackettstown, NJ

As for snow events, to put it in baseball terms, there were a lot of singles and a few doubles, but no home runs. The frequency of events and threats kept snow-removers quite busy. Jan 10th and Jan 18th brought some widespread light to moderate accumulations. The most significant storm of the month came on Jan. 28th as a modest snowfall fell in most areas with even Maryland and Delaware finally saw a snow accumulation. But as usual, sleet, freezing rain & rain mixed during the event.

### Wacky Winter Weather



- 3.6" of snow in Las Vegas (McCarran APT) on 12-15
- New Orleans picked up an inch of snow on 12-11 with 3-6" in other parts of Lou.
- Second snowiest month on record in Portland, OR
- Rockford, IL low temp of -25 on 1-16 was their third lowest temp ever (-27)

## Receiving Forecast Alerts by E-Mail

We want to remind clients that you can receive your forecast and alert products not only by fax, but also email. The email allows multiple company contacts to see the forecast or alert. In addition, you can add your personal home address to the email list, to ensure that you see alerts off-hours and weekends.

Some e-mail servers and Internet Service Providers have been blocking a few of our e-mails, which get bounced back to us and we try resending them. In some cases, our forecasts get sent directly to your spam folder

and neither the recipient nor [WeatherWorks](http://www.weatherworksinc.com) knows there is a problem. To avoid forecasts coming in as spam or being blocked, make sure that email addresses from weatherworksinc.com are allowed. The other step that can be made is to add the e-mail accounts to the right to your address book. This helps reduce the chance of our e-mails being filtered out as spam.

### WeatherWorks e-mails:

(all addresses are followed by @weatherworksinc.com unless otherwise noted)

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tommyelse  
kevinhopler  
seanrowland  
kenelliott  
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jonathanschwarz  
jvlwx@optonline.net  
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**Summarizing the First Half of Winter: NY - CT - MA**

Even though it was relatively quiet in November across the region in spite of snow and ice activity in typically warmer Pennsylvania and New Jersey, it has been an extraordinarily busy winter season in New England. December and January more than made up for the lack of snow with about 40" of snow through Jan. 29 in Boston, which is near the seasonal average.

At times during December and January there were seemingly snow threats every day, sometimes twice in a day which have kept all those in the snow and ice industry exceedingly busy. Most of those events tended to have rather low snowfall totals. The above normal season to date numbers (+27.1" in Boston, +7.9" in Hartford and +4.5" in NYC) are thanks in large part to the snow storms of December 19-21 and January 18-19.

The first major and widespread storm of the region was welcomed by many. While not a typical coastal low, the storm of December 19-21 was rather potent and delivered rather impressive snow totals despite the fact areas along the coast mixed with and changed to sleet and freezing rain for a time. Wide-



spread accumulations of 5 to 10 inches were observed across much of the area. Due to favorable winds as the storm pulled away and strengthened off the New England Coast, ocean effect snow showers took over in MA, in many cases doubling the snow amounts from the primary storm. This led to many totals between 1 and 2 feet from the storm.

Not to be out done, the January 17-19 winter storm was unique in that there were two distinct rounds of snow separated by just a few hours created by different weather systems. Except for parts of Massachusetts, by and large the first round of snow brought the bulk of the accumulating snow to the area. Snow totals varied but as has been the trend for the season, the highest totals were in Massachusetts, where there were widespread 8-16" storm totals were reported. Amounts tailed off

further south and west, where much of the NY Metro area were in the 4-8 inch range from the 2 rounds of snow.

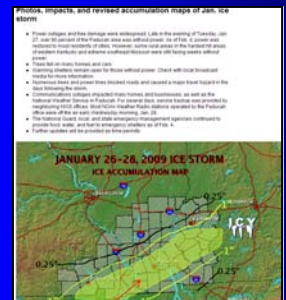
The other main story of the winter has been the temperatures, especially in January. Despite only one bitterly cold arctic air outbreak January 15-17 that preceded the second major storm of the area, temperatures have been below normal. Amazingly enough, despite above normal snowfall in December, temperatures were actually near or slightly above normal. However, thanks in large part to that arctic cold snap where many places went below 0, (including a low of -15 on Jan. 17 at Westhampton, NY) average temperatures are 3-5 degrees below normal for January.

2008-2009 Total Snowfall	
Boston, MA	49.0"
Poughkeepsie, NY	35.8"
Providence, RI	35.5"
Hartford, CT	33.6"
Islip, NY	19.3"
New York, NY	15.0"

For clients that use our **Certified Snowfall Totals** program, we wanted to briefly address when an event is posted. Typically, it takes up to 48 hours after the end of the snowfall to post the event. A storm summary takes WeatherWorks meteorologists several hours to work on. The length of time to get the event posted, is dependant on several factors.

In the future, we are working on a program that would send an email out when the CST event has been posted.

**Website of the Month**



[http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display\\_cmsstory.php?wfo=pah&storyid=21421&source=0](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display_cmsstory.php?wfo=pah&storyid=21421&source=0)

Our region has had a fair amount of ice this year, but take a look at this devastating ice storm that struck W. KY.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Feb. 10-12 PA Landscape & Nursery Conference  
State College, PA
- Feb. 12-15 Flower & Garden Show of New Jersey  
Edison, NJ

**FEBRUARY AVERAGES (30 year averages: 1971-2000)**

	Boston, MA (BOS)		Newark, NJ (EWR)		Baltimore, MD (BWI)	
	Feb. 1	Feb 28	Feb. 1	Feb 28	Feb. 1	Feb 28
High Temp	36	42	39	45	42	48
Low Temp	29	34	24	29	24	29
Precip (Mo. Total)	3.40"		2.96"		3.02"	
Snowfall (Mo. Total)	10.7"		8.4"		6.4"	
Sunrise	6:58 AM	6:21 AM	7:07 AM	6:32 AM	7:13 AM	6:40 AM
Sunset	4:59 PM	5:33 PM	5:15 PM	5:47 PM	5:27 PM	5:58 PM

**February 2009 Temperature Outlook**

Signs of La Nina developing mean that arctic outbreaks will become less frequent and we may trend towards a slightly warmer pattern thru the month.

**February 2009 Precipitation Outlook**

Storm systems are likely going become active and producing more precipitation, as opposed to the relatively dry January. Northern areas area going to continue to remain favorable for wintry events.