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July 2010

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Hot Weather Stats

- Philadelphia, PA had their warmest June on record, barely beating out 1994 and 1925.

- Meanwhile, Atlantic City shattered their June temperature record by nearly a degree.

- The last below normal month for temperatures in New England (Boston - Hartford - Providence) was Dec. 2009

- Washington, DC had its hottest June day in 13 years as it hit 100 degrees on the 24th.

A Very Warm and Dry June in the Northeast

Temperatures were the big story in June as once again all spots saw an above normal month. The heat was most noticeable during the second half of June, when several 90 degree days took place and the humidity was oppressive at times. The only period that could be considered "cool" was that of June 7-12 with highs primarily in the 70s. Though New England and NY/N.J. stayed pleasant the next few days, it rapidly was heating up in SE PA/S. NJ and Maryland. This was where some really hot weather was during the month and for more information, check out some of the statistics on the left. A much welcomed shot of cool, Canadian air arrived at the the very end of the month. From Allentown to Boston, temperatures averaged 2-4 degrees above normal, while they were 5-7 degrees higher than average from

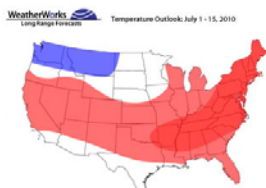
90 Deg. Days in June

Washington, DC	18
Baltimore, MD	16
Philadelphia, PA	15
Newark, NJ	13
Allentown, PA	5
Hartford, CT	3
Boston, MA	3

Philadelphia to DC.

All of this hot weather led to some watering issues towards the end of the month as landscaping and gardening became challenging with soils drying out. Rainfall was below normal in June, except for New England, and even there almost all of it came in the first half of the

July Weather Outlook



July 1-15 Temperatures

Despite July starting off relatively cooler than June across the Northeast, this will prove to be brief. After July 3rd, heat will quickly return. A Bermuda High will develop and extend into the Eastern U.S., keeping the Northeast on the dry side for long durations during the month. However, some occasional t-storms will likely be around at times to mitigate the overall dry-ness.

The potential does exist for a cut-off cold air pocket to move toward the southern United States by the end of the month. This could help bring back less warm air and somewhat wetter conditions to the Southeast and possibly portions of the Mid Atlantic. However, the end of the month still looks to average warmer than normal for all locations.

Editor's note: the above is a free preview of a Long Range Forecast product currently under development. If you have any comments or suggestions email [Ken Elliott](mailto:Ken.Elliott@WeatherWorks.com)

month (in Boston, 2.69" out of the 3.18" monthly total came from June 1-10). Luckily, April and May were beneficial in terms of rainfall and that has helped to keep from soils becoming excessively dry. Watering will become more and more needed as very dry weather looks to continue through the start of July.



Bridgeport, CT Tornado Damage (from NBC Connecticut)

Road crews and power companies had a quiet severe month in what has turned out to be a relatively quiet severe season so far. June only provided a few severe days. Storms on the 6th affected New York through Mass. with wind damage, while on the 22nd, Maryland saw wind damage and large hail. However, the most damaging day came on June 24th. There were two intense lines of storms. One through SE NY and Coastal Connecticut produced an EF-1 tornado in downtown Bridgeport, CT with a four-block area of very bad damage. The other line through SE PA and South Jersey, gave Philadelphia it's third highest wind gust ever at 75 MPH as it affected the Philadelphia Phillies baseball game and produced damage around the ballpark. Video clips of the storms can be seen [here](#) and [here](#).

July Averages (30 Years: 1971 - 2000)

Forecasting Severe Weather



As the June summary pointed out, there were a few days that severe storms impacted the region. However, there always seemed to be an area that missed out on the heaviest weather, or in some cases, thunderstorms all together. When it comes to forecasts on the East Coast severe weather can pose quite a challenge because there are many factors to consider. Very rarely do all factors align at the same time. While instability might be good on one day, the upper atmosphere conditions may be unfavorable, or vice versa. This makes it difficult to determine the severe potential and which general area has the greatest threat

So beware, that when you hear there is the potential for severe thunderstorms or a "Severe Thunderstorm Watch" has been issued, it means that conditions are conducive for damaging storms. Be prepared, but do not assume a severe storm is guaranteed.

[Website of the](#)

	New York, NY (KNYC)		Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	
	July 1	July 31	July 1	July 31
High Temp	82	84	86	87
Low Temp	67	69	65	66
Precip	4.62"		3.85"	
Snowfall	0.0"		0.0"	
Sunrise	5:28 AM	5:51 AM	5:44 AM	6:06 AM
Sunset	8:31 PM	8:12 PM	8:37 PM	8:20 PM

2010 SIMA Symposium Wrap-Up

(Please Note: WeatherWorks will be attending a few other shows later in the year, including one for road departments).

The 13th annual SIMA Snow & Ice Symposium took place last week in Providence, RI and the show once again was filled with many wide ranging aspects of the Snow & Ice industry. We saw a lot of clients stop by the WeatherWorks booth to say hello. It was great meeting some people for the first time, especially many of those that work in New England. It was also great to see a lot of familiar faces that have been stopping by for years.

The trade show portion of the symposium featured nearly 100 exhibitors with a wide variety of features ranging from snow plows to deicers and cleaners to turf products. In addition, there were numerous sessions and presentations geared towards educating the industry. While we are in the "quiet" weather season, be sure to check out the various shows and conferences in your area to see if there are any services or innovations that may help you in the winter season.

Month



After a hot June, and the prospects of more heat in July, it is a good idea to revisit heat safety tips. This Centers for Disease Control & Prevention page goes over many tips and strategies to beat the heat. These are just as useful for workers out on a job site or a family vacation at the beach. Click above for the website.

Quick Links

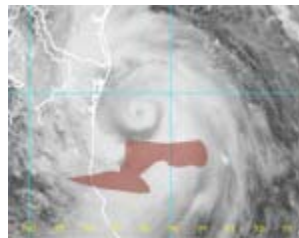
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**WeatherWorks President Frank Lombardo
 Interviewed at the 2010 SIMA Symposium**

How will the Gulf Oil Spill & Hurricanes Mix?

Every year, the Gulf of Mexico is one of the most critical regions in the Atlantic Basin for tropical storm activity. This year, the situation is even more acute with the ongoing Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Of key interest to those in the Gulf Region and ultimately the rest of the country is to understand the potential interaction between the spill and tropical storms/hurricanes.



**Oil Slick Superimposed
 on Hurricane Alex**

From a meteorological point of view, the oil spill probably will not have much impact on a tropical system. This notion is one held by much of the scientific community, including the National Hurricane Center. In theory, the presence of oil in the Gulf could actually limit the potential strength of a storm. Since a storm's primary source of strength comes from the evaporation of water from the sea surface, an oil slick would actually slow down this process. In reality, however, the size of the oil slick is relatively small

compared to the size of a hurricane (see above sample image). So any slowing of evaporation would not be significant. Furthermore, even if a smaller storm were to track directly over the spill zone, there would still be little noticeable effect on a storm since the oil slick is patchy in nature and there would still be plenty of water to evaporate off of the surface.

It is an entirely different story for the recovery effort, however. As Hurricane Alex has already demonstrated, a hurricane (even a weak one) would churn up the seas and create gusty winds as it passes through the Gulf of Mexico. This will be the case even if it is far removed from the oil slick, as was the case of Alex where it



Recovery Work Near Spill Site
5/20/10 (NOAA)

caused problems from the southwest corner of the Gulf. In addition to rough seas hampering the recovery effort, any tropical system in the Gulf would cause the oil to move in a different direction. A track west of the spill would be most problematic, as the flow around the storm would push the oil towards the U.S. Coast. On the other hand, a storm passing by to the east would push it away from the coast.

Unfortunately, the tropical season is just beginning and with a busier than normal year anticipated, there will likely be lots of worries in the months to come.

Start Thinking About Winter

After a remarkably warm four month stretch, it is hard to think about the winter ahead. After all, November is still four months away and the "Dog Days" have not even started yet. However, for anyone that works to keep roadways, parking lots or sidewalks snow and ice free come wintertime, this time of year is the best time of year to plan.

WeatherWorks has a large amount of available weather data to help you formulate strategies for the upcoming winter. Whether you are

figuring out how many tons of salt to order, or how to price out a contract, WeatherWorks' Snowfall Climatologies can help you make the best possible decision. In addition to annual snowfall totals and averages, in many cases a breakdown of storms by size is available to illustrate whether a season's snow came from one or two big storms or many smaller ones. If you are interested in such a climatology, please e-mail [Ken Elliott](#) for more information.

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles to appear in the next several editions of The Weather Tracker aimed at winter preparations. Next Month's article will feature a very early glimpse into the winter forecast.

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