

The Pennsylvania Observer

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June 2009 – Pennsylvania Weather Recap

Written by: Steve Travis

June, the start to the meteorological summer, began slightly below normal for many locations across the Commonwealth. The cool start would linger as a cold front took its time moving through from June 2nd through June 5th. In its wake, the front left much cooler temperatures statewide, including temperatures 10 degrees Fahrenheit below normal in State College (KUNV) and significant rainfall with single day totals over 1 inch (25.4 mm) in many locales and a 4 day total of 2.76 inches (70.1 mm) in Downingtown.

A short reprieve in rainfall occurred for the weekend on the 6th and 7th, allowing temperatures to rise above normal for the first time all month with a daytime maximum of 84° F (28.9°C) on June 7th in Williamsport (KIPT), seven degrees above the average for the date.

On the 8th, a low pressure system passed from the northwest and was quickly followed by a lengthy stationary front that stretched from off the Jersey Shore west to Oklahoma. Over the next few days, a series of low pressure centers would “ride” along this front until it became a cold front and finally moved south on the 13th. In this period of time, Pennsylvania received a substantial amount of rainfall, much of which came in the form of severe weather (penny-sized hail was reported in York and Womelsdorf (Storm Prediction Center)). Over the course of this rainy week, over 4 inches of rain (101.6 mm) fell in some locations with Hawley in Wayne County picking up 5.78 inches (146.8 mm).

However, the trend of pleasant weekends continued as conditions began to turn around on the 13th and sunny skies on the 14th allowed temperatures to approach 80° F (26.67°C) in many cities.

But by the middle of the work week, frequent, heavy rain associated with a warm front moved through the state, inundating Pittsburgh with 3.43 inches (87.12 mm) in just 24 hours on June 17th. This dowsing caused flash flooding in and around the steel city, stranding many motorists going back and forth from work.

The rain would continue through Father’s Day weekend before most of the state cleared out and warmed up on the 22nd. High pressure built across the Commonwealth through the 25th, allowing temperatures to go well above normal in most locations. This created a significant amount of instability in the atmosphere, sparking severe thunderstorms statewide when a series of cold fronts came through over the last weekend of the month. The result of one of these storms was a report of 2 inch diameter hail in Covington, Tioga County on Friday, the 26th (Storm Prediction Center).

When a cold front came through the Commonwealth to close the month, it brought an end to the coolest June since 1992 for Lehigh, Schuylkill, Carbon and Northampton counties. In addition, even while considering the flash flooding mid-month, it was the driest June since 2005 for Pittsburgh and its surrounding counties.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during June 2009 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks of which our office receives routine observations. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	York Haven	93 °F	June 10 th	York
Lowest Temperature	Curwensville Lake	29 °F	June 1 st	Clearfield
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Willow Grove	12.79"	-	Montgomery
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Braddock Lock	1.66"	-	Allegheny

Weather Stories

Late Blight Confirmed in Five Pennsylvania Counties

http://blogs.mcall.com/master_gardeners/2009/06/late-blight-confirmed-in-five-pennsylvania-counties.html

Wild Weather Wreaks Havoc Across Region

<http://cbs3.com/topstories/Bucks.County.Storms.2.1061668.html>

Unseasonable Weather a Good Thing for Those who Fish

<http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090627/SPORTS/906270342>

Hot, Humid Weather is Finally Here

<http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/239217>

Climate Change Threatens Apple Production in Pennsylvania

<http://www.examiner.com/x-13103-Pittsburgh-Gardening-Scene-Examiner~y2009m6d23-Climate-change-threatens-apple-production-in-Pennsylvania>

An Exceptionally Soggy June for many in US

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/feedarticle/8569499>