



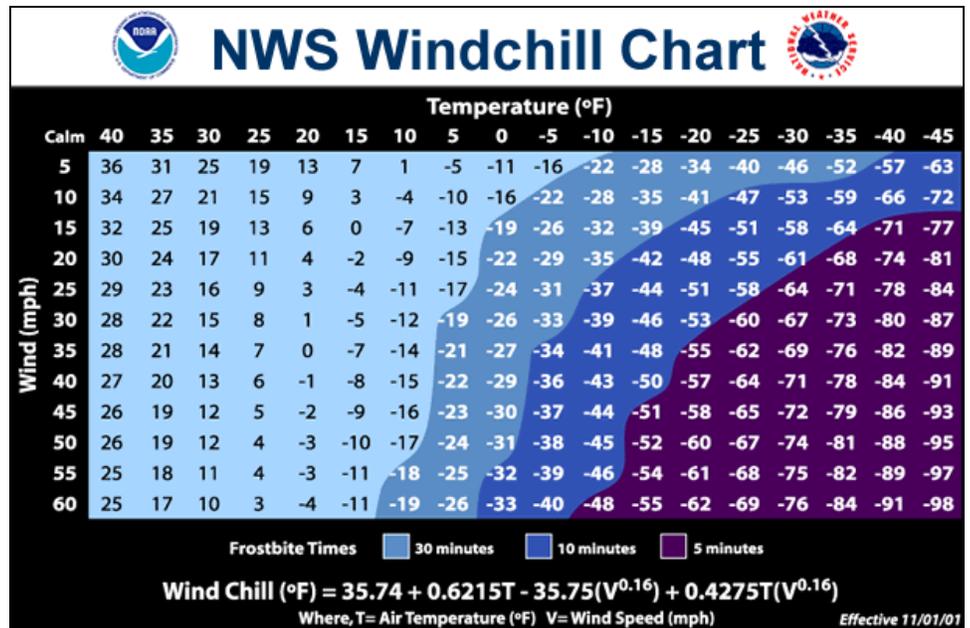
# The High Plains Drifter

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
NORTH PLATTE, NE



## WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE

**What is wind chill temperature?** The wind chill temperature is how cold people and animals feel when outside. Wind chill is based on the rate of heat loss from exposed skin caused by wind and cold. As the wind increases, it draws heat from the body, driving down skin temperature and eventually the internal body temperature. Therefore, the wind makes it FEEL much colder. If the temperature is 0 degrees Fahrenheit and the wind is blowing at 15 mph, the wind chill is -19 degrees Fahrenheit. At this wind chill temperature, exposed skin can freeze in 30 minutes. The wind chill chart is used to determine how cold it will feel based on the winds and temperatures. Also included with the shading is the time needed for exposed skin to get frostbite.



### What's Inside

New Coop Weather Observer Website	2
Cooperative Awards	3
Use of Coop Data	3
Newport	4
Instructions for B-91 Forms	5
Snowfall Reporting	6
Climatological Calendar	7

Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Your feedback is very important to us!

**Does wind chill only apply to people and animals?** Yes. The only effect wind chill has on inanimate objects, such as car radiators and water pipes, is to more quickly cool the object to cool to the current air temperature. Object will NOT cool below the actual air temperature. For example, if the temperature outside is -5 degrees Fahrenheit and the wind chill temperature is -31 degrees Fahrenheit, then your car's radiator will not drop lower than -5 degrees F.

**What is FROSTBITE?** You have frostbite when your body tissue freezes. The most susceptible parts of the body are fingers, toes, ear lobes, or the tip of the nose. Symptoms include a loss of feeling in the extremity and a white or pale appearance. Get Medical attention immediately for frostbite. The area should be SLOWLY re-warmed.

**How does this chart apply to children?** The tests that were done on Windchill were conducted on adult subjects. For legal and safety reasons, NWS could not ask for child volunteers. Use the existing chart as a starting point and be even more cautious with children, seniors and persons with compromised health.

# COOPERATIVE WEATHER OBSERVER WEBSITE

The Cooperative Observer Webpage has taken on a whole new look. Observers can use the drop down menu to access more information about the program and for reporting observations. By choosing 'Submit WxCoder Observation', the observer has a direct link to the WxCoder log in page. Supplies can be requested as well as guidelines for observations. Other resources from the drop down menu include a history and description of the Cooperative Observing program, Awards available for observers, description of station types and equipment used, how to become an observer if you are located in an area without an observer, and a link to the National Cooperative Observer website.

Below the drop down menu of resources is a list of observers who report their daily observations. This data has been collected into a database since January 1st, 2006. The location of the COOP station is found on the bottom map while the county the station is located in is highlighted black on the state map. By clicking on the site name in the lists above or below the maps, users can view the latest observation from another window that opens.

The database queries table allows users to choose which weather elements they would like to view for specific locations and days. Only the observers who enter their data daily via WxCoderII, IV-ROCS, or calling the NWS office will have their data listed. This information is updated continuously. Any person with access to a computer can view your data. The database only goes back to January 1, 2006, when the webpage was first implemented. If data before January 1, 2006 is needed, please contact our office at 1-800-603-3562.

## ***COOPERATIVE WEATHER OBSERVER AWARDS***



On May 24th, Mr. Marvin Doolittle, a long time resident of Holt County was honored by the National Weather Service for 30 years of service with the Cooperative Observation Program.

Mr. Doolittle has taken precipitation measurements for the past 30 years at his residence two miles west of Amelia. The precipitation is recorded using an automated, solar-powered, weighing precipitation gage. Every fifteen minutes the gage measures the amount of precipitation that has fallen. The measurements are recorded on a continuous tape by perforating a coded message on the tape. Weather observations began in Amelia in 1940 taken by Edgar Peterson. The 15 minute automated precipitation observations began in March of 1959 by William Fryrear. Mrs. Hazel Ott was the observer for the following 8 years until Mrs. Ralph Rees took over observations from 1967 to 1969. Mr. Leo Carney became the Amelia observer in 1969 until 1975. The Postmaster, Mr. Stanley Thompson took over the observations until the Post Office was shut down. Mr. Marvin Doolittle then took over the observations for the Amelia in 1976.

## ***UPCOMING WEATHER OBSERVER AWARDS***

Patrick Pelster for 10 years of Service in Paxton

Gerry Osborn for 60 years of Service in Ainsworth

## ***EXAMPLES OF COOP DATA USE***

FSA in Sheridan county requested temperature and precipitation data for the county to use in the drought assistance grant.

The city of Atkinson requested temperature and precipitation normal values and extreme values during the bidding of an ethanol plant.

# NEWPORT

The cooperative weather station history for the community of Newport goes back for more than a century. The station was implemented on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1890, which makes it one of the oldest such sites in the state of Nebraska. There have been a number of observers over the years, including Robert Gilg, who in May 2003 was given an award for 40 years of weather observing. Later that same year, in September, the current observer, Lloyd Larson, took the reigns as the Newport weather observer. Last month marked Lloyd's third year observing temperatures and precipitation.

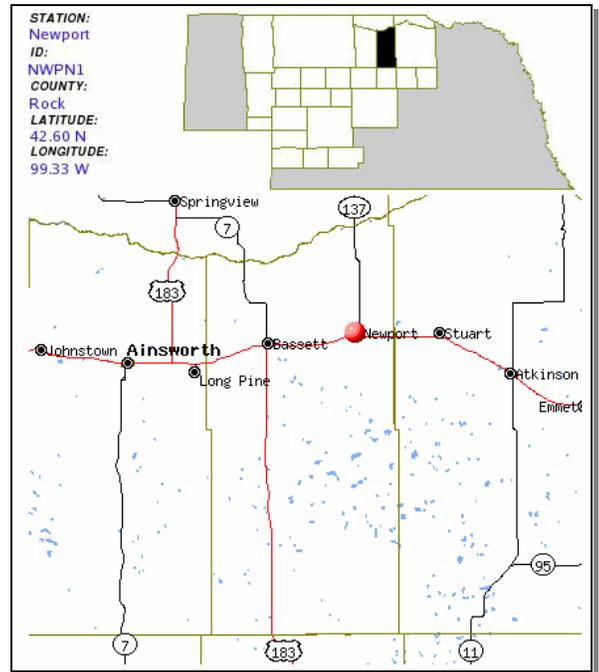
Lloyd, his wife Betty, and daughter Karla live on the west edge of Newport. Lloyd worked for Kracl Equipment, located in O'Neill, until 1993. These days Lloyd not only keeps busy observing the weather, but also has a unique and time consuming hobby. He makes miniature windmills, United States coin maps, and other items out of wood. Lloyd has sold some of his creations from as far away as California, but keeps his wood making more of a



hobby. It takes Lloyd as many as eighty hours to complete one windmill, and he enjoys every minute of it.

Lloyd is very talented, and has made

some beautiful creations from wood. If you are ever in the Newport area, head to the west edge of town, and stop by Lloyd's shop to see for yourself the detail and craftsmanship that goes into one of his projects.



All Time Records	
High	115 on July 20 & 21, 1934
Low	-36 on February 2, 1905
Precipitation	5.91 inches on June 18, 1994
Snow	18.0 inches on March 30, 1949

Monthly and Yearly Averages (1971-2000)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
High	32	38	47	59	71	81	88	86	77	63	45	35
Low	10	16	25	36	47	57	62	60	50	37	24	14
Precip	0.52	0.75	1.64	2.38	3.88	3.66	3.69	2.25	2.63	1.80	1.21	0.63
		<b>High</b>		<b>Low</b>		<b>Mean</b>		<b>Precip</b>				
30 Year Avg		60.2		36.4		48.3		25.04				



# SNOWFALL REPORTING

The Fall and Winter seasons are just around the corner. It is time for us to prepare for the changing weather patterns which will bring cold north winds and snow. At the beginning of each snowfall/freezing season, remove the funnel and inner measuring tube of the eight-inch manual rain gauge to expose the 8-inch diameter overflow can so that it can more accurately catch frozen precipitation. If you have a snowboard place it out and mark the location with a flag or some other indicator so it can be found after a new snowfall. The board should be located in the vicinity of your station in an open location (not under trees, obstructions, or on the north side of structures in the shadows).

Snow videos are still available for those who would like to watch them. Nolan Doesken, the Colorado State Climatologist has prepared a video showing how to measure snowfall, placements of snowboards, and different ways to melt snowfall for the water equivalent.

Snowboards are also still available for those who have not received one yet. Please contact the office to have one sent to you at 1-800-603-3562.



DATE	TEMPERATURE F.			24-HR AMOUNTS		
	24 HRS ENDING AT OBSERVATION		AT OBSN.	At ob.		At ob.
	MAX.	MIN.		Rain, melted snow, etc., (Ins. and hundredths)	Snow, ice pellets (Ins. And tenths)	
1				A	B	C
2						

- A** Measure and record the water equivalent of snowfall (melted snow) since the previous day's observation. Record in inches and hundredths.
- B** Measure and record the snowfall (snow, ice pellets) since the previous snowfall observation. Record value in inches and tenths. **DO NOT USE FRACTIONS!**
- C** Determine the depth of snow on the ground at the normal observation time. Record value to the nearest whole inch. Record zero when no snow present. **DO NOT USE FRACTIONS!**

# CLIMATOLOGICAL CALENDER

## Climatological Data for May through August 2006

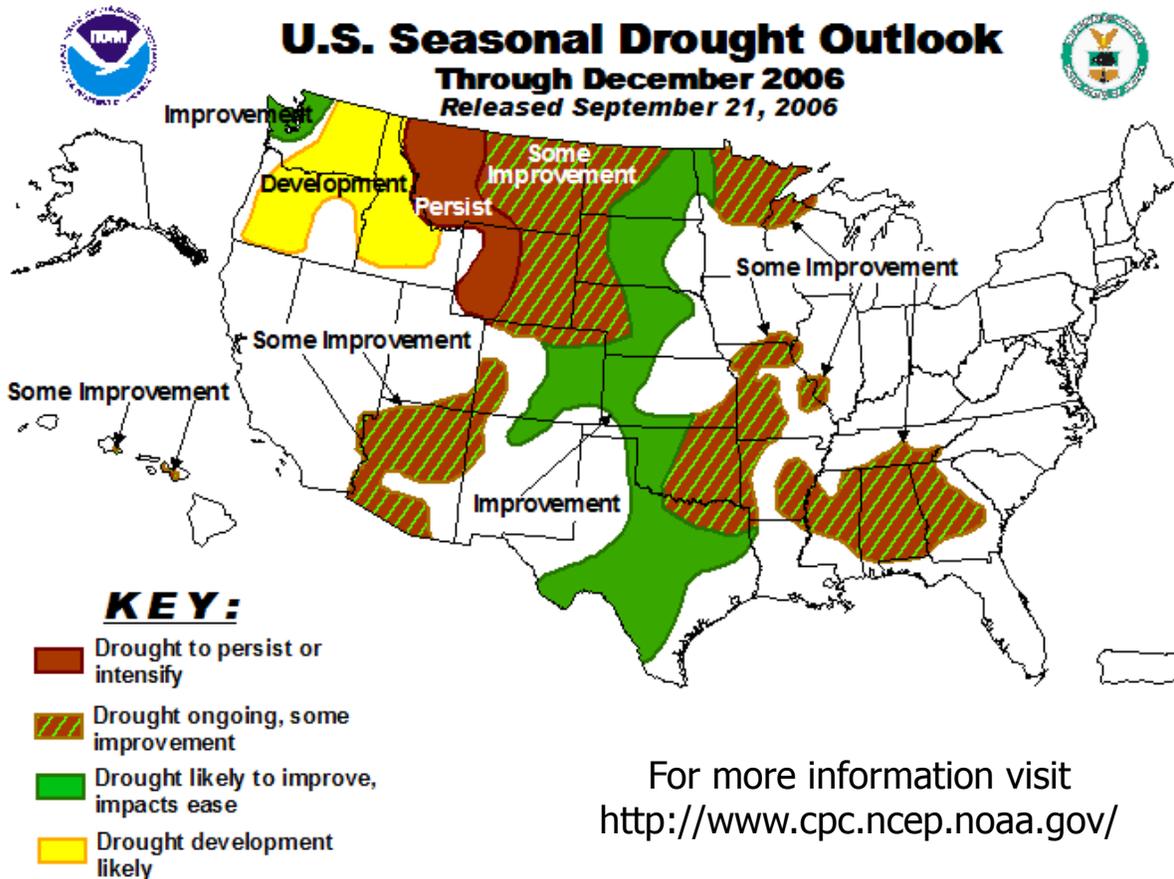
Location	Month	Average	Departure	Rain	Departure	Highest	Lowest
<b>North Platte</b>	May	62.2 °F	+2.9 °F	0.83 inches	-2.51 inches	99 °F (27th)	29 °F (12th)
	June	72.4 °F	+4.0 °F	5.03 inches	+1.86 inches	100 °F (14th)	47 °F (26th)
	July	77.8 °F	+3.5 °F	3.27 inches	+0.10 inches	106 °F (19th)	54 °F (6th)
	August	72.3 °F	-0.3 °F	1.95 inches	-0.20 inches	100 °F (5th)	49 °F (29th)
<b>Valentine</b>	May	59.5 °F	+2.0 °F	0.26 inches	-2.94 inches	97 °F (27th)	27 °F (12th)
	June	71.0 °F	+3.4 °F	3.02 inches	+0.01 inches	101 °F (30th)	39 °F (1st)
	July	79.7 °F	+6.0 °F	0.28 inches	-3.09 inches	113 °F (16th)	53 °F (14th)
	August	76.0 °F	+0.9 °F	2.76 inches	+0.56 inches	103 °F (23rd)	47 °F (29th)

### Normal High/Low Temperatures

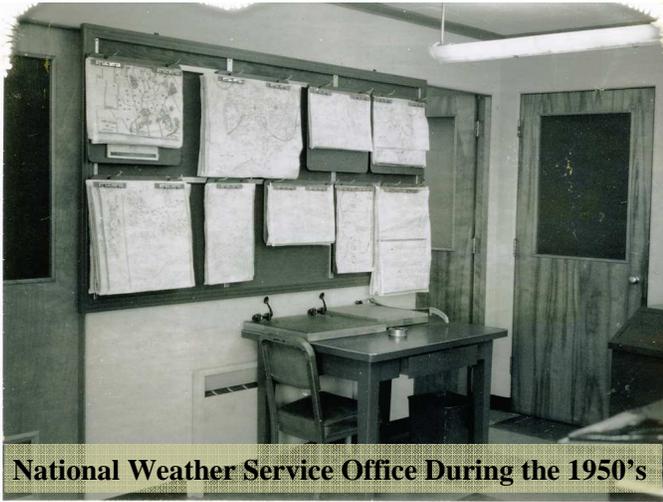
Location	Oct 1	Nov 1	Dec 1	Jan 1
North Platte	73/40	56/27	42/15	36/10

### Normal High/Low Temperatures

Location	Oct 1	Nov 1	Dec 1	Jan 1
Valentine	71/39	54/26	40/14	34/8



For more information visit  
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>



**National Weather Service Office During the 1950's**

**Lead Forecasters**

Chris Buttler Cliff Cole  
Kenny Roberg Mitch Power  
John Springer

**General Forecasters**

Teresa Keck Matt Masek  
Dennis Phillips Jim Connolly

**Electronic Technicians**

Alan Johnson Ernie Vasina

**Hydrometeorological Technicians**

Jim Sweet

**Our Office Staff**

**Meteorologist in Charge**

Brian Hirsch

**Warning Coordination Meteorologist**

Deb Blondin

**Science & Operations Officer**

John Stopkotte

**Electronics Systems Analyst**

Arthur Patrick

**Information Technology Officer**

Dennis Blondin

**Administrative Support Assistant**

Mary White

**Observing Program Leader**

Mark Byrd

**Meteorological Interns**

Christina Henderson Angela Oder  
Bill Taylor

National Weather Service  
5250 E. Lee Bird Field  
North Platte, NE 69101

Phone: 308-532-4936

1-800-603-3562

Fax: 308-532-9557

Email: Christina.Henderson@noaa.gov



***Check out our website at***

***<http://www.weather.gov/northplatte>***