



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 2005

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

MNZ044>045-049>070-073>078-082>085-091>093 Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Ramsey - Washington - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Mcleod - Sibley - Carver - Scott - Dakota - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Le Sueur - Rice - Goodhue - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

01 1000CST 2359CST 0 0 Winter Storm

Low pressure tracked from Kansas across southeast Minnesota into northeast Wisconsin between December 31st and January 1st. As a result a wide swath of wintry precipitation blanketed the southern half of Minnesota between late morning and late evening on the 1st. A mix of snow, sleet, and freezing rain was observed in most locations during this period. The heaviest snowfall accumulations, around 4 inches, were reported around Cambridge and Princeton. Sleet accumulations were the primary weather feature across much of central and west central Minnesota. Up to an inch of sleet was reported in these areas, intermingled with a light ice accumulation. South and east of a line from St. James to Red Wing, freezing rain was predominant. Ice accumulations of up to 1/4 inch were reported in Owatonna. The mixed bag of precipitation caused hazardous travel conditions region wide.

MNZ083

Blue Earth

05 1500CST 2 0 Extreme Cold/Wind Chill

An elderly couple became stranded in their van after it became stuck in a snow drift on rural 176th Lane in Lincoln Township in Blue Earth County. When rescue workers found the missing vehicle they discovered that the husband and wife had died of exposure. The wife was found in the van and the husband was found 75 yards from the van. Rescue workers found tracks up to 100 yards from the van and noticed that the man turned around and walked back toward the van before collapsing. Temperatures on the day they died rose into the teens and periods of snow were also reported. The time of death was estimated. M65OU, F62VE

MNZ043>045-049>051

Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne

12 0300CST 1500CST 0 0 Winter Storm

An area of low pressure passing through Iowa brought a period of snow to central Minnesota between the evening of the 14th and the early afternoon of the 15th. The precipitation was heaviest during the morning of the 15th when snowfall rates of up to 2 inches per hour were reported. Snowfall totals included 8.3 inches at St. Cloud State University in addition to 10 miles east of Woodland, 8.0 inches at St. Joseph, 7.8 inches near Foley; 7.5 inches at Clear Lake, 8 miles south of Hillman, Milaca, and Mora; 7.0 inches in Sauk Rapids, and 6.0 inches in northern Kanabec County.

MNZ062

Ramsey

15 2300CST 1 0 Extreme Cold/Wind Chill

A disabled woman was found dead of exposure outside of Como Park Conservatory. She arrived at the conservatory via cab for a wedding around 7 PM on the 15th but was never seen inside the building. The motorized scooter she was driving tipped over outside and she was found dead near the scooter at about 9 AM on the 16th. The low temperature during the night that she was missing was 9 degrees below zero. The time of death was estimated. F49OU

MNZ041-047>048-054>058-064>067-073>077-082>085-091>093 Douglas - Stevens - Pope - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Yellow Medicine - Renville - Mcleod - Sibley - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet - Le Sueur - Rice - Watonwan - Blue Earth - Waseca - Steele - Martin - Faribault - Freeborn

21 1000CST 22 1200CST 0 0 Blizzard

MNZ042>045-049>053-059>063-068>070-078 Todd - Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Ramsey - Washington - Carver - Scott - Dakota - Goodhue

21 1000CST 22 0800CST 0 0 Winter Storm



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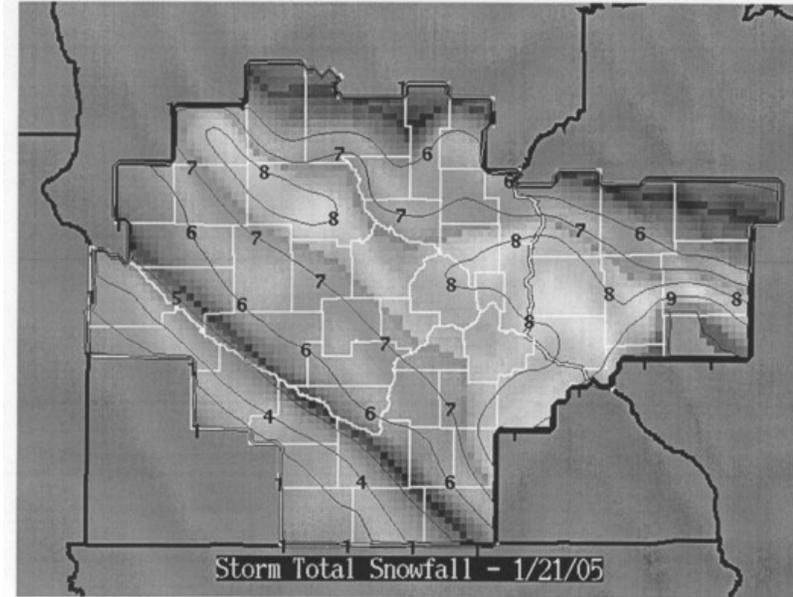
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MINNESOTA, Central and South Central



Storm Total Snowfall Map, January 21st and 22nd, southern Minnesota and West Central Wisconsin.

Low pressure moved from South Dakota into southern Minnesota on the 21st. Periods of snow resulted between the morning of the 21st and the early morning hours of the 22nd. Snowfall totals ranged from around an inch southwest of a line from Madison to Hanley Falls to Springfield to Fairmont where freezing rain and sleet mixed in with the snow to a swath of 6 to 8 inches stretching from Alexandria to St. Cloud to the Twin Cities metropolitan area. After the snow began to taper off during the predawn hours of the 22nd the winds increased dramatically. Sustained winds increased to 30 to 40 MPH across west central and south central Minnesota with gusts as high as 64 MPH. Sustained winds across the remainder of southern Minnesota reached 25 to 35 MPH with gusts up to 50 MPH. Peak wind gusts included 64 MPH at New Ulm, 61 MPH at Blue Earth and Madelia, 60 MPH at St. James and Fairmont, 58 MPH at Starbuck, 55 MPH at Olivia and Morris, 54 MPH at Appleton, 52 MPH at Granite Falls, 51 MPH at Redwood Falls, 47 MPH at Mankato, 46 MPH at Alexandria, 41 MPH at St. Cloud, and 40 MPH at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. The gusty winds caused widespread blowing and drifting of snow southwest of a line from Alexandria to Willmar to Glencoe to Faribault which dropped visibilities to near zero at times. Snowplow operators were pulled off the road between midnight and 4 AM on the 22nd because of the blizzard conditions. In addition, Interstate 94 was closed west of Alexandria due to severe drifting and low visibilities. Snow drifts of up to 3 feet were reported after the winds died down around midday on the 22nd. Scattered power outages were reported during the pre-dawn hours of the 22nd in Redwood, Brown and Watonwan counties after ice coated power lines were blown down by the high winds. Numerous automobile accidents were also reported region wide during the storm.

WISCONSIN, West

WIZ014>016-023>028

Polk - Barron - Rusk - St. Croix - Pierce - Dunn - Pepin - Chippewa - Eau Claire

01 1400CST
02 0200CST

0 0

Winter Storm

Low pressure tracked from Kansas across southeast Minnesota into northeast Wisconsin between December 31st and January 1st. As a result a wide swath of wintry precipitation blanketed west central Wisconsin between early afternoon on the 1st and early morning on the 2nd. Sleet and freezing rain was the predominant weather type, however trace snowfall accumulations were also reported. Many locations, especially near Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire received up to 1/2 inch of ice and sleet accumulation. The



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WISCONSIN, West

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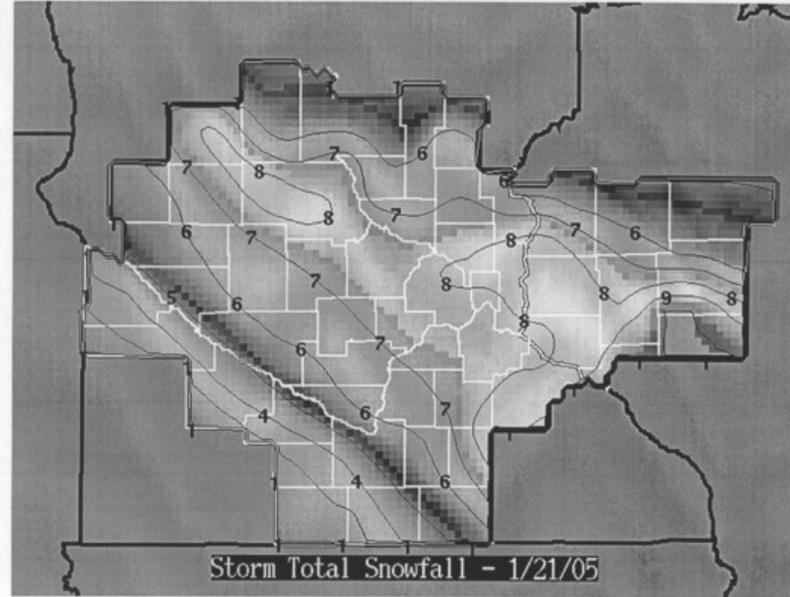
WIZ014>016-023>028

Polk - Barron - Rusk - St. Croix - Pierce - Dunn - Pepin - Chippewa - Eau Claire

21 1400CST
22 1400CST

0 0

Winter Storm



Storm Total Snowfall, January 21st and 22nd, southern Minnesota and west central Wisconsin.

Low pressure moved from southern Minnesota into central Wisconsin between the afternoon of the 21st and midday on the 22nd. This system dropped 4 to 10 inches of snow across west central Wisconsin. The highest amounts were found in a swath from Hudson to Eau Claire where 8 to as much as 11 inches of snow was recorded. The lowest amounts between 4 and 6 inches were reported near Rice Lake and Ladysmith. The snow began to taper off around mid morning on the 22nd but winds increased to 20 to 25 MPH with gusts to 35 MPH which caused areas of blowing and drifting snow into the afternoon.