

2007 Weather Highlights in Western Kentucky ... Southern Illinois ... Southwest Indiana ... and Southeast Missouri

WINTER SEASON (December 2006 – February 2007)

Synopsis: The first two months of the winter of 2005-2006 began unseasonably warm with mean monthly temperatures for December and January ranging from 3 to over 6 degrees above average. It was the 6th warmest December in Cape Girardeau, the 7th warmest at Paducah and the 10th warmest in Owensboro. The warm winter season was due to upper level ridging over the eastern half of the United States, allowing a good southerly flow to persist into mid January. Daytime high temperatures the first part of January had climbed into the 50s and 60s, but by the end of the month the upper level pattern had shifted with a more northwest flow developing across the quad-state area. The first part of February saw bitterly cold temperatures as a series of arctic cold fronts swept through the Mid-Mississippi River valley. Afternoon highs struggled to reach the 20s and 30s.

With the warmer temperatures the first part of the season, no more than a trace of snow fell through January. In mid January a strong frontal system brought 2 to 6 inches of rain over a 4-day period, and although several roads were flooded for a short period of time, no major flooding was reported. The cold temperatures in February allowed for moderate snow to develop with between 2 to 4 inches accumulation reported across much of southern Illinois, southwest Indiana and the Pennyriple area of Kentucky. A round of severe weather developed in Missouri with hailstones the size of golf balls reported.

DECEMBER 2006	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	42.8°	+5.9°	7 th Warmest
Owensboro KY	42.0°	+4.1°	10 th Warmest
Evansville, IN	41.0°	+5.4°	
Carbondale, IL	40.6°	+5.9°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	41.9°	+4.8°	
Cape Girardeau MO	41.5	+5.0°	6 th Warmest

JANUARY 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	37.4°	+4.5°	
Owensboro, KY	37.8°	+4.3°	
Evansville, IN	37.1°	+6.1°	

Carbondale, IL	34.9°	+4.8°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	37.0°	+4.4°	
Cape Girardeau MO	35.5°	+3.1°	

FEBRUARY 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	34.0°	-4.1°	
Owensboro, KY	30.1°	-8.7°	
Evansville, IN	29.0°	-6.8°	
Carbondale, IL	30.8°	-4.0°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	35.4°	-2.8°	
Cape Girardeau MO	33.1°	-4.8°	

DECEMBER 2006	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Monthly Snowfall	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	4.47	+0.09	Trace	-1.5 in.	
Owensboro, KY	2.38	-1.53	0.0	-2.8 in. (E)	
Evansville, IN	4.59	+1.05	Trace	-2.8 in.	
Carbondale, IL	3.08	-0.63	Trace	-1.5 in. (E)	
Poplar Bluff, MO	3.12	-1.20	0.0 in.	-0.8 in.	
Cape Girardeau, MO	3.72	-0.49	Trace	-1.9 in.	

JANUARY 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Monthly Snowfall	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	6.43	+2.96	Trace	-3.9 in.	7 th Wettest
Owensboro, KY	3.23	-0.24	Trace	-4.6 in. (E)	
Evansville, IN	5.47	+2.56	Trace	-4.6 in.	
Carbondale, IL	3.39	+0.48	Trace	-3.9 in. (E)	
Poplar Bluff, MO	6.26	+3.30	Trace	-3.0 in.	
Cape Girardeau, MO	5.08	+1.70	Trace	-4.4 in.	7 th Wettest

FEBRUARY 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Monthly Snowfall	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.81	-1.12	2.5 in.	-0.8 in.	
Owensboro, KY	2.46	-1.39	Trace	-3.8 in. (E)	
Evansville, IN	3.41	+0.31	3.6 in.	-0.2 in.	
Carbondale, IL	3.12	+0.11	Trace	-3.3 in. (E)	
Poplar Bluff, MO	5.28	+1.80	1.0 in.	-0.8 in.	
Cape Girardeau, MO	3.67	+0.23	2.0 in.	-4.4 in.	

SPRING SEASON (March 2007 – May 2007)

Synopsis: Spring of 2007 started out with record or near record warmth across the entire area. Average monthly temperatures ranged 7.5 to over 9 degrees above normal during the month of March. It was the warmest March on record for the communities of Paducah and Cape Girardeau. Poplar Bluff experienced their 2nd warmest March, and it was the 4th warmest in Owensboro, 5th warmest in Evansville and 8th warmest March in Carbondale. With the unusual warm temperatures, plants and crops developed quickly, and during the second week of April a severe cold spell took hold. In Paducah on April 8th the morning low dropped all the way down to 21 degrees. It was the 10th coolest April on record for the communities of Carbondale and Poplar Bluff. The hard-freeze temperatures that occurred for a couple of days in a row caused around 70 million dollars damage to the winter wheat crop. Many communities lost younger trees, especially fruit trees, as well as widespread damage to flowers and shrubbery. The cold temperatures filtered into the quad state area behind a strong frontal system on April 3rd, which brought severe weather. Thunderstorms with prolific hail move through many communities. The month of May saw a return to above normal average temperatures, with the 4th warmest May on record for Owensboro and the 10th warmest recorded in Paducah. Another outbreak of severe weather occurred on the 15th of May with damaging winds and one inch diameter hail reported.

Aside from the occasional severe weather events, the spring season averaged below normal for precipitation. With the exception of Poplar Bluff's May precipitation total, every location for all three months recorded below normal month rainfall totals. It was the 3rd driest April on record for Cape Girardeau and the 7th driest April in Owensboro.

MARCH 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	56.7°	+9.1°	Warmest
Owensboro, KY	55.7°	+7.5°	4 th Warmest
Evansville, IN	53.6°	+7.8°	5 th Warmest

Carbondale, IL	53.9°	+9.6°	8 th Warmest
Poplar Bluff, MO	56.2°	+8.3°	2 nd Warmest
Cape Girardeau, MO	55.5°	+7.9°	Warmest

APRIL 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	55.6°	-1.4°	
Owensboro, KY	55.1°	+0.8°	
Evansville, IN	53.7°	-1.8°	
Carbondale, IL	53.5°	-0.8°	10 th Coolest
Poplar Bluff, MO	55.6°	-2.4°	10 th Coolest
Cape Girardeau, MO	55.0°	-2.5°	

MAY 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	70.5°	+4.6°	10 th Warmest
Owensboro, KY	71.7°	+4.7°	4 Warmest
Evansville, IN	69.6°	+4.0°	
Carbondale, IL	69.5°	+5.7°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	71.2°	+3.8°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	70.2°	+3.2°	9 th Warmest

MARCH 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.88	-1.39	
Owensboro, KY	1.29	-2.97	7 th Driest
Evansville, IN	2.66	-1.63	
Carbondale, IL	2.06	-2.19	
Poplar Bluff, MO	2.86	-1.85	
Cape Girardeau, MO	1.69	-2.80	3 rd Driest

APRIL 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.89	-2.06	
Owensboro, KY	2.14	-2.47	
Evansville, IN	2.88	-1.60	
Carbondale, IL	3.64	-0.81	
Poplar Bluff, MO	3.17	-1.60	
Cape Girardeau, MO	3.33	-1.01	

MAY 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.53	-2.22	
Owensboro, KY	2.53	-2.25	
Evansville, IN	2.73	-2.28	
Carbondale, IL	2.71	-2.07	
Poplar Bluff, MO	7.31	+2.94	
Cape Girardeau, MO	3.45	-1.64	

SUMMER SEASON (June 2007 – August 2007)

Synopsis: The biggest weather event for the summer of 2007 was the widespread drought conditions that developed across much of western Kentucky and southwest Indiana. This drought lasted well into the fall season, with rainfall deficits averaging between 16 to 20 inches. The unusually dry conditions led to several water restrictions and very poor crop harvests, especially hay, soy beans and corn. Temperatures were above normal during June, with much cooler temperatures spreading across the region during July. Several communities had very cool mean temperatures with the coolest July on record for Cape Girardeau when the monthly mean only reached 75.8 degrees, or 3.8 degrees below normal. It was the 7th coolest July for Carbondale and the 8th coolest in Paducah. The cool and dry weather quickly changed in August, when a strong upper level high pressure system took hold on the eastern half of the United States. The warmest August on record was set for Paducah, when the monthly mean was 83.6 degrees, or 7.4 degrees above normal. One day the afternoon high was 105 degrees in Paducah, just 3 degrees from the warmest temperature ever recorded for the community. It was the second warmest for Evansville. During the hot month, several dozen people were treated for heat illnesses and there was one heat related fatality.

Dry conditions prevailed through the summer months with well below normal rainfall recorded for the month of August. It was the driest August ever for Poplar Bluff and Cape Girardeau, and the 8th driest for Paducah. And Owensboro, Evansville and Carbondale averaged between 2 and 2.5 inches below normal for August. The Land between the Lakes area of western Kentucky averaged between a 6 to 10 inch deficits for the summer season during June. In Doniphan Missouri, no measureable rainfall was recorded in August.

JUNE 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	76.0°	+1.5°	
Owensboro, KY	77.0°	+1.4°	
Evansville, IN	75.6°	+0.8°	
Carbondale, IL	75.2°	+2.5°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	76.8°	+0.8°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	75.8°	+0.1°	

JULY 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	76.6°	-1.6°	8 th Coolest
Owensboro, KY	77.0°	-2.2°	
Evansville, IN	76.7°	-1.9°	
Carbondale, IL	75.5°	-1.4°	7 th Coolest
Poplar Bluff, MO	77.1°	-3.6°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	75.8°	-3.8°	Coolest

AUGUST 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	83.6°	+7.4°	Warmest
Owensboro, KY	83.5°	+6.0°	2 nd Warmest
Evansville, IN	83.4°	+6.9°	2 nd Warmest
Carbondale, IL	82.1°	+7.1°	5 th Warmest
Poplar Bluff, MO	82.5°	+4.0°	5 th Warmest
Cape Girardeau, MO	82.1°	+4.8°	4 th Warmest

JUNE 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	5.09	+0.58	
Owensboro, KY	2.82	-0.80	
Evansville, IN	2.71	-1.39	
Carbondale, IL	4.40	-0.37	
Poplar Bluff, MO	2.39	-1.57	
Cape Girardeau, MO	1.72	-2.09	9 th Driest

JULY 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.24	-2.21	
Owensboro, KY	4.84	+1.02	
Evansville, IN	1.97	-1.78	
Carbondale, IL	1.76	-1.59	
Poplar Bluff, MO	2.80	-1.03	
Cape Girardeau, MO	2.52	-0.93	

AUGUST 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	1.17	-1.82	8 th Driest
Owensboro, KY	1.31	-2.04	
Evansville, IN	0.99	-2.15	
Carbondale, IL	1.55	-2.39	
Poplar Bluff, MO	0.29	-3.09	Driest
Cape Girardeau, MO	0.01	-3.27	Driest

AUTUMN SEASON (September 2007 – November 2007)

Synopsis: The drought that began in the early summer season continued into much of the fall, with the hay, soy beans and corn crops suffering the most damage. Many farmers

harvested their crops early to use as feed instead of shipping it out to market. Also, a high percentage of livestock was sold due to the increased price for feed. Unseasonably warm temperatures continued through September and October, with several new daily record highs set. It was within the top 10 warmest September and October in the communities of Paducah, Owensboro and Cape Girardeau. It was the 9th warmest October in Evansville. A return to more season-like average temperatures developed occurred in November, when most locations had mean temperatures at or below normal.

By November, a slight relief to the drought began, although most locations received below normal rainfall. Much of the relief occurred in October, when well above normal rainfall was recorded in Paducah and Cape Girardeau. A significant severe weather outbreak occurred on October 18th. October set a record for the strength of a tornado recorded during the month, as well as the number of tornados for October. All but one of the tornados occurred in Kentucky with no fatalities reported. Total damage estimates were between 15 to 20 million dollars.

SEPTEMBER 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	73.7°	+4.6°	8 th Warmest
Owensboro, KY	74.3°	+3.4°	4 th Warmest
Evansville, IN	73.5°	+4.4°	
Carbondale, IL	71.7°	+4.2°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	73.2°	+2.4°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	72.4°	+2.9°	7 th Warmest

OCTOBER 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	62.7°	+4.7°	10 th Warmest
Owensboro, KY	64.1°	+4.6°	5 th Warmest
Evansville, IN	63.3°	+6.0°	9 th Warmest
Carbondale, IL	61.7°	+5.4°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	62.3°	+3.1°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	61.6°	+3.3°	6 th Warmest

NOVEMBER 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	47.0°	+0.2°	
Owensboro, KY	46.8°	-1.1°	

Evansville, IN	45.9°	±0.0°	
Carbondale, IL	46.1°	+0.9°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	47.4°	-0.1°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	45.8°	-1.0°	

SEPTEMBER 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	1.99	-1.57	
Owensboro, KY	1.29	-2.22	
Evansville, IN	2.22	-0.77	
Carbondale, IL	2.19	-0.94	
Poplar Bluff, MO	1.60	-1.77	
Cape Girardeau, MO	5.40	+2.10	8 th Wettest

OCTOBER 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	5.82	+2.37	8 th Wettest
Owensboro, KY	5.20	+2.19	
Evansville, IN	4.64	+1.86	
Carbondale, IL	4.22	+1.29	
Poplar Bluff, MO	5.98	+2.63	
Cape Girardeau, MO	6.09	+2.92	3 rd Wettest

NOVEMBER 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	2.11	-2.42	
Owensboro, KY	2.06	-2.04	
Evansville, IN	1.77	-2.41	
Carbondale, IL	1.45	-3.17	
Poplar Bluff, MO	1.52	-3.38	9 th Driest

Cape Girardeau, MO	1.58	-2.92	6 th Driest
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WINTER (December 2007)

Synopsis: A mild winter had begun in the quad state area with December mean temperatures well above normal for all six locations. The unusually warm temperatures during the month contributed to 2007 being tied for the 3rd warmest yearly average temperature at Paducah, with records dating back on 1948. In Evansville, it was the 11th warmest year on record.

After a summer into fall drought which affected much of southwest Indiana and western Kentucky, a great relief came in December when well above rainfall accumulations were recorded. It was the 7th wettest December on record in Paducah and Evansville, the 5th wettest in Carbondale and Cape Girardeau, and the 6th wettest in Poplar Bluff. Much of the rainfall occurred in the last half of the month when a series of frontal systems moved across the quad state area with strong thunderstorms and brief torrential rains.

DECEMBER 2007	Average Monthly Temp.	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	40.0°	+3.1°	
Owensboro, KY	40.7°	+2.8°	
Evansville, IN	38.7°	+3.1°	
Carbondale, IL	38.5°	+3.8°	
Poplar Bluff, MO	39.6°	+2.5°	
Cape Girardeau, MO	38.6°	+2.0°	

DECEMBER 2007	Monthly Precip.	Departure from Normal	Monthly Snowfall	Departure from Normal	Records
Paducah, KY	7.37	+2.99	0.2 in.	-1.3 in.	7 th Wettest
Owensboro, KY	6.03	+2.12	Trace	-2.8 in. (E)	
Evansville, IN	6.34	+2.80	0.1 in.	-2.7 in.	7 th Wettest
Carbondale, IL	7.05	+3.34	Trace	-1.5 in. (E)	5 th Wettest
Poplar Bluff, MO	8.59	+4.27	0.0 in.	-1.8 in.	6 th Wettest
Cape Girardeau, MO	7.50	+3.29	Trace	-1.9 in.	5 th Wettest