

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2024

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
ILLINOIS, Northeast				
(IL-Z023) KANKAKEE				
	10/06/24 12:20 CST		0	Wildfire
	10/06/24 16:00 CST		0.32M	
A large wildfire burned 400 acres of cropland northeast of Herscher in Kankakee County during the afternoon of the 6th. According to one online news source, the fire was believed to be started from the rear cropper mechanism of a combine. The same news source lists an estimated loss of \$320,000, a majority of which was corn and the rest soy. The fire took several hours and the help of multiple fire crews to extinguish and burned a total of around 400 acres worth of crops; 300 of corn and 100 of soybeans. A Special Weather Statement was in effect at the time advertising an elevated fire danger for the day due to gusty winds and dry fuels, especially south of I-80. Numerous smaller fires broke out across northern Illinois on the 6th.				
(IL-Z003) WINNEBAGO, (IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z008) OGLE, (IL-Z010) LEE, (IL-Z011) DE KALB, (IL-Z012) KANE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z019) LA SALLE, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z023) KANKAKEE, (IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON, (IL-Z033) IROQUOIS, (IL-Z039) FORD, (IL-Z103) NORTHERN COOK COUNTY, (IL-Z106) NORTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z107) SOUTHERN WILL COUNTY, (IL-Z108) EASTERN WILL COUNTY				
	10/15/24 07:00 CST		0	Drought
	10/31/24 23:59 CST		0	
Severe drought conditions developed across much of northern and northeastern Illinois during the middle and latter parts of October. Precipitation over the area was far below normal for the month. The Rockford Airport recorded just 0.79" of rain for the entire month, 2.63" below their October normal. Chicago-O'Hare fell 2.25" short of normal having recorded 1.18", while the NWS Chicago office in Romeoville recorded 0.95" during October falling 2.72" shy of normal. Numerous wildfires occurred in October around NWS Chicago's county warning area, including one near Herscher in Kankakee County that destroyed over 300 acres worth of crops. The severe drought continued into November.				
(IL-Z005) MCHENRY				
	10/31/24 19:37 CST		50K	High Wind (MAX 39 kt)
	10/31/24 19:37 CST		0	
Strong non-thunderstorm winds on the 31st managed to knock down a gas station canopy in Crystal Lake which fell onto two cars. A photo of the damage was shared by emergency management. A wind advisory was in effect at the time advertising wind gusts upwards of 45 mph.				
INDIANA, Northwest				
(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON				
	10/29/24 07:00 CST		0	Drought
	10/31/24 23:59 CST		0	
(IN-Z001) LAKE, (IN-Z002) PORTER, (IN-Z010) NEWTON, (IN-Z011) JASPER, (IN-Z019) BENTON				
	10/29/24 07:00 EST		0	Drought
	10/31/24 23:59 EST		0	
Severe drought conditions developed across northwestern Indiana during the latter part of October. Precipitation over the area was far below normal for the month. The Porter County Airport in Valparaiso recorded just 1.38" of rain for the entire month, 1.94" below its October normal. A number of cooperative observers from around Newton, Jasper, and Benton counties recorded less than an inch over the course of the month. Numerous wildfires occurred in October around NWS Chicago's county warning area, including one near Mount Ayr along the Newton-Jasper county line that burned nearly 300 acres. The severe drought continued into November.				
LAKE MICHIGAN				
BURNS HARBOR TO MICHIGAN CITY IN COUNTY --- MICHIGAN CITY HARBOR [41.72, -86.92]				
	10/12/24 15:58 CST		0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 47 kt)
	10/12/24 15:58 CST		0	Source: C-MAN Station

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The Michigan City GLERL site measured a 47 kt gust from within a cluster of showers and thunderstorms on the afternoon of the 12th.				
WILMETTE HARBOR TO MICHIGAN CITY IN 5NM OFFSHORE TO MID LAKE COUNTY --- 14.7 NW MICHIGAN CITY HARBOR [41.89, -87.09]				
	10/14/24 11:30 CST		0	Waterspout
	10/14/24 11:31 CST		0	Source: Public
A photo was forwarded from the International Center for Waterspout Research showing a waterspout approximately 15 miles offshore from Indiana Dunes State Park during the afternoon of the 14th.				
WILMETTE HARBOR TO NORTHERLY ISLAND IL COUNTY --- HARRISON-DEVER CRIB [41.92, -87.57]				
	10/31/24 02:02 CST		0	Marine High Wind (MG 54 kt)
	10/31/24 02:02 CST		0	Source: C-MAN Station
A fast-moving low level jet provided a few hour period of strong non-thunderstorm winds across the Chicago metro and out over Lake Michigan late during the night of the 30th.				