

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2015

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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ILLINOIS, Northeast

LIVINGSTON COUNTY --- 0.5 E FAIRBURY [40.75, -88.51]

	12/23/15 09:44 CST	0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/23/15 09:44 CST	0	0	Source: Law Enforcement

One half mile east of Fairbury on U.S. 24. Power Pole down due to winds.

(IL-Z013) DU PAGE

	12/23/15 21:56 CST	0	0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
	12/23/15 21:56 CST	0	0	

An unseasonably warm and moist airmass moved north across northern Illinois during the day. Strong shear and increasing instability produced damaging winds.

(IL-Z032) LIVINGSTON

	12/28/15 00:00 CST	0	0	Ice Storm
	12/28/15 19:00 CST	0	0	

(IL-Z003) WINNEBAGO, (IL-Z004) BOONE, (IL-Z005) MCHENRY, (IL-Z006) LAKE, (IL-Z008) OGLE, (IL-Z010) LEE, (IL-Z011) DE KALB, (IL-Z012) KANE, (IL-Z013) DU PAGE, (IL-Z014) COOK, (IL-Z020) KENDALL, (IL-Z021) GRUNDY, (IL-Z022) WILL

	12/28/15 01:00 CST	0	0	Sleet
	12/28/15 22:00 CST	0	0	

(IL-Z019) LA SALLE

	12/28/15 01:00 CST	0	0	Winter Storm
	12/28/15 21:00 CST	0	0	

A powerful weather system impacted the central United States from December 26-28, including northern Illinois on December 28. This system was predominantly sleet (or ice pellets) with occasional mixing of freezing rain and snow for areas along and north of I-80, and mainly freezing rain with an occasional sleet mix south of I-80.

The official sleet total for Chicago was 1.9" observed at O'Hare International Airport. This appears to be a record for sleet in a day, with the previous record being 1.5" on February 4, 1924. The official sleet and snow total in Rockford was 3.5" observed at Chicago Rockford International Airport.

Other sleet amounts include 1.6" at the NWS Chicago office in Romeoville, and 2.1" observed near (3 miles southwest) Chicago Midway International Airport.

Some of the highest sleet reports include: 3.5 inches near Roscoe (Winnebago); 3.5 inches in Polo (Ogle); 3.2 inches in Crystal Lake (McHenry); 3.0 inches near Batavia (Kane); 3.0 inches near Brookfield (Cook); 2.5 inches near Carol Stream (DuPage); 2.0 inches near Capron (Boone); and 1.6 inches in Romeoville (Will). Freezing rain amounts were 0.30 inches in Pontiac (Livingston) and 0.25 inches in Mendota (LaSalle).

LIVINGSTON COUNTY --- 1.5 SSE BLAIR [41.08, -88.31], 1.5 SSE BLAIR [41.08, -88.31], 1.4 SSE BLAIR [41.08, -88.31], 1.4 SSE BLAIR [41.08, -88.31]

	12/29/15 06:00 CST	1	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain / Snow Melt)
	12/29/15 22:00 CST	0	0	Source: Broadcast Media

Flooding occurred in rural Dwight. A Bourbonnais, IL man was found dead and Livingston County officers said the vehicle hydroplaned or became submerged in water, and then was overcome by the current.

Direct Fatalities: M49VE

Extensive flooding ensued from heavy rainfall near the end of December 2015. The rain/sleet storm on December 28th produced precipitation amounts between 2 and 3 inches within portions of the Kankakee, Vermilion, Iroquois, and upper Illinois watersheds. Soil moisture was already high from heavy rainfall in November. Many creeks and streams rose out of their banks by the evening of Dec 28th with others cresting well above flood stage in the weeks that followed. River forecast points on the Vermilion River near Leonore, IL and Sugar Creek near Milford, IL reached the third highest crests on record. Some of the most extensive flooding occurred in Watseka IL from a combination of Sugar Creek and Iroquois River flooding.