

#### NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



# **Top 10 Wisconsin Weather Events of 2017**

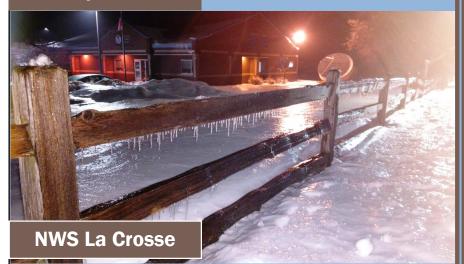
1	Western Wisconsin Freezing Rain/Icing
2	February 23/24 NW Wisconsin Snowstorm
3	Mild February
4	Southern Wisconsin March Snowstorm
5	May 16 Record Long Track Tornado
6	June 11th Severe Weather in Northwest Wisconsin
7	10 Tornadoes on June 14 in East Central Wisconsin
8	Burlington Flooding
9	Southwestern Wisconsin July 19-21 Flooding
10	Wet and Dry Halves of the Year

These chronologically listed weather events have been coordinated by the Warning Coordination Meteorologists from the National Weather Service offices in Duluth, Green Bay, La Crosse, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. Much of the climate related information and maps are from the National Centers for Environmental Information (ncei.noaa.gov) and the Midwest Regional Climate Center (mcc.sws.uiuc.edu).

For questions/comments, please contact NWS Milwaukee Warning Coordination Meteorologist Tim Halbach at timothy.j.halbach@noaa.gov.

# 1 Western Wisconsin Freezing Rain/Icing

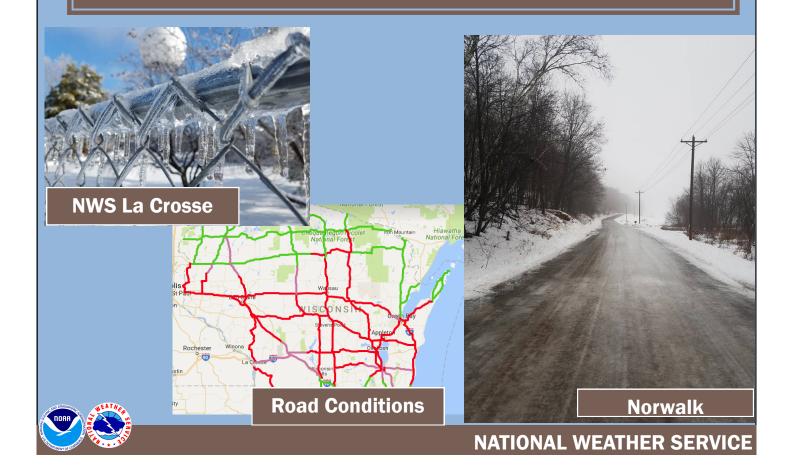
**January 16, 2017** 



#### **Icing Reports:**

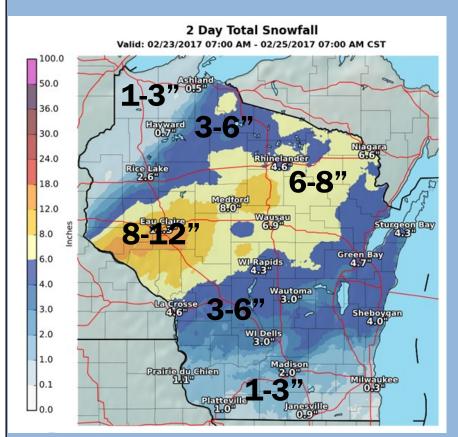
- Richland Center
- Lancaster
- Neillsville
- Alma
- Black River Falls
- La Crosse
- Medford
- West Salem

Freezing rain left a coating of ice ranging from 1/4" to 1/2" on the ground and other surfaces leaving a thick coating of ice. The biggest impact was on area roads, parking lots, and sidewalks which were covered in a sheet of ice.



### **2** February Northwest Wisconsin Snowstorm

February 23-24, 2017



# **Snow Reports**

Augusta	11.0"
Eau Claire	10.1"
Stetsonville	8.5"
Merrill	7.6"
Morse	7.2"
Hatfield	6.2"
Shawano	6.0"
Pittsville	5.0"

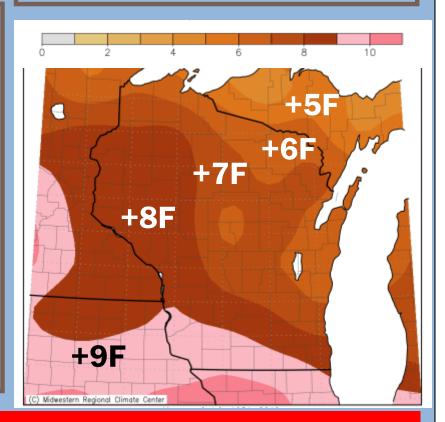
After a long stretch of unseasonably warm conditions, a winter storm moved through Wisconsin and provided some high snowfall amounts in the northern half of the state. Some freezing rain caused some minor icing in the southern half of the state. A sharp cut off in snow totals occurred along the NW edge of the heaviest snow band with nearly a foot of snow in west central WI to almost nothing a few counties away.



### **Mild February**

**Temperature Departure from Mean** 

February 2017 ended up being one of the warmest Februaries on record. Numerous high temperature records were broken, particularly on February 22nd where many locations broke all time February high temperature records.



#### **High Temperature Records**

- **2/17** Rhinelander (55), Wausau (53),
- 2/18 Milwaukee (67), Madison (62), Green Bay (57), Appleton (57), Oshkosh (57), Manitowoc (55)
- **2/19** La Crosse (65), Wisconsin Rapids (62), Wausau (57), Green Bay (57), Oshkosh (58), Rhinelander (58)
- 2/20 Madison (62), Appleton (55)
- 2/21 Milwaukee (66), Madison (62), Wisconsin Rapids (60), Manitowoc (59), Sturgeon Bay (58), Appleton (57), Marshfield (57), Stevens Point (57), Rhinelander (56)
- 2/22 All Time Highs for Feb: Milwaukee (71), Madison (68), Appleton (68), Oshkosh (66), Green Bay (65); Daily Record High: La Crosse (63), Wisconsin Rapids (61), Stevens Point (58), Marshfield (57)

#### 4 Southern Wisconsin March Snowstorm

March 12-14, 2017

This long duration storm ended up producing almost 2 feet of snow along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Lake enhanced and lake effect snow lead to the high totals.

#### **Snow Reports**

Wind Point 23.0"

Elmwood Park 21.5"

North Bay 17.5"

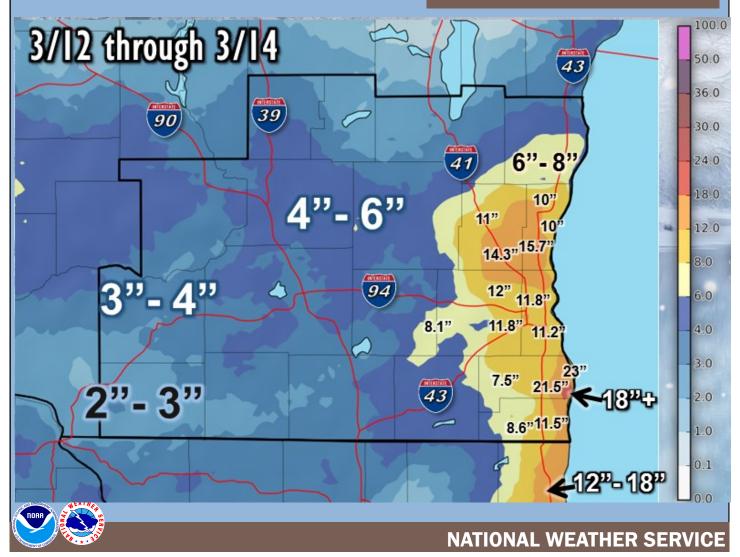
Newburg 15.7"

Germantown 13.7"

New Berlin 11.8"

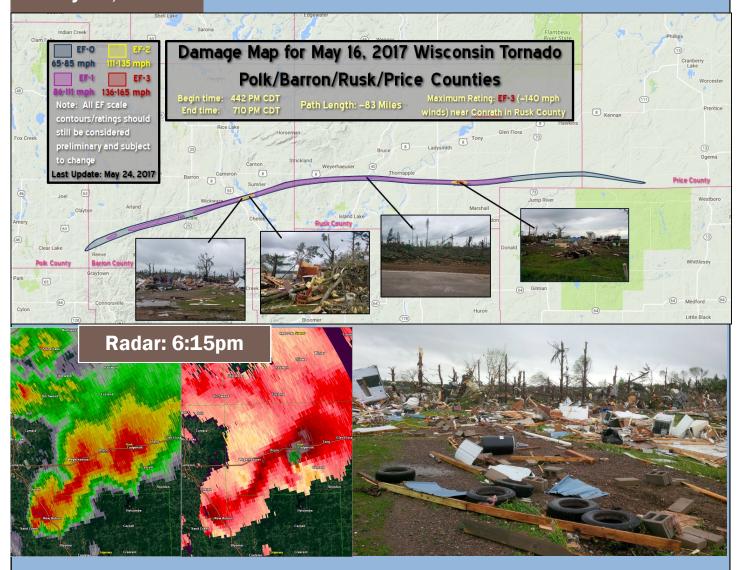
Kenosha 11.5"

Hales Corners 11.4"



### 5 Record Long Track EF3 Tornado-Chetek

May 16, 2017



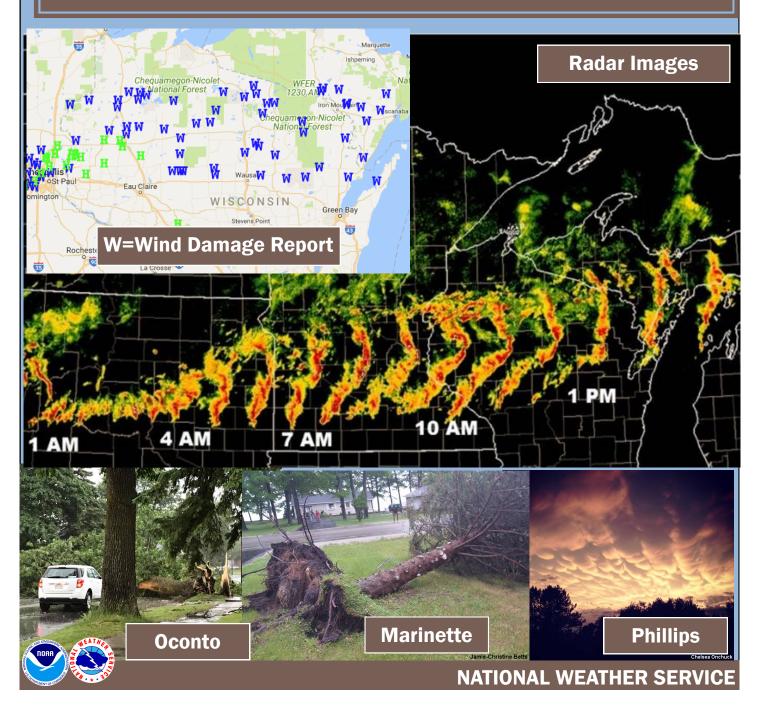
A powerful thunderstorm produced an 83 mile long tornado track (WI record) which affected 4 counties. The tornado first developed east of Clear Lake, then tracked mostly eastward across southern Barron and Rusk counties, then to SW Price county. The hardest hit areas were north of Chetek and Conrath. 1 fatality occurred north of Chetek at a mobile home park.



#### **6** June **11**th NW Wisconsin Severe Weather

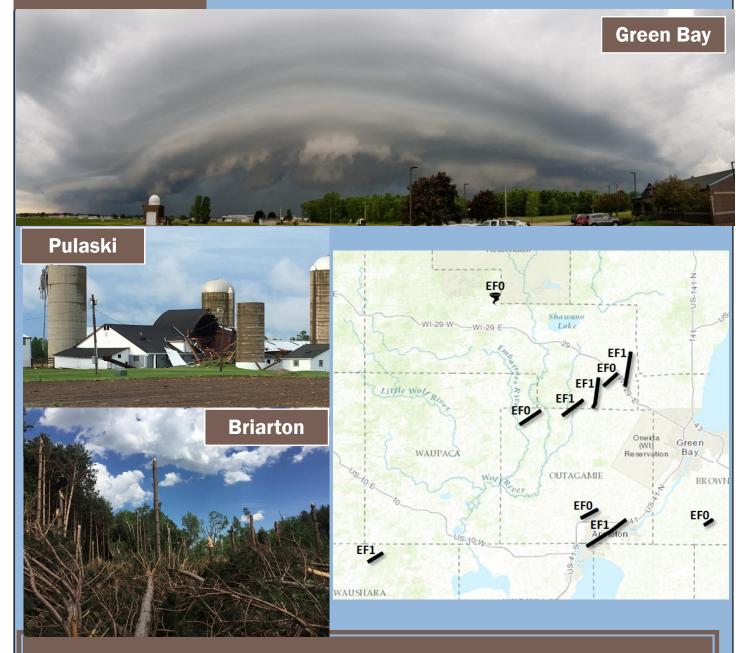
June 11, 2017

During the morning hours of June 11th, a line of severe thunderstorms raced eastward out of South Dakota, across southern and central Minnesota, on through northern Wisconsin into the UP of Michigan. Widespread damaging winds and large hail were reported across northern Wisconsin.



# 7 EF0/1 Tornado Outbreak-East Central WI

June 14, 2017



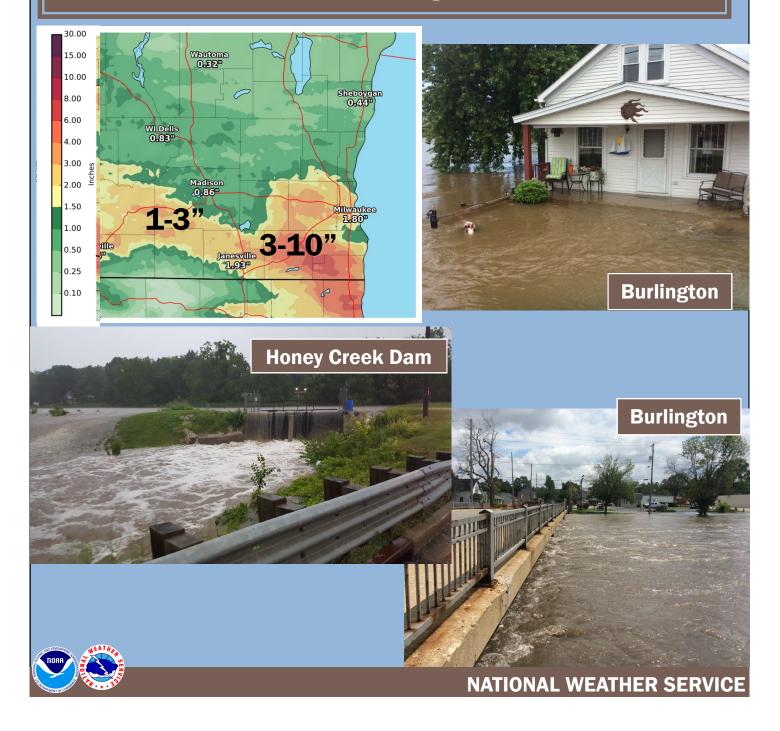
A line of thunderstorms moved across central and east-central Wisconsin during the afternoon of June 14, producing widespread wind damage and ten tornadoes, all EFO and EF1. This is the biggest June outbreak of tornadoes in the NWS Green Bay service area (NE WI).

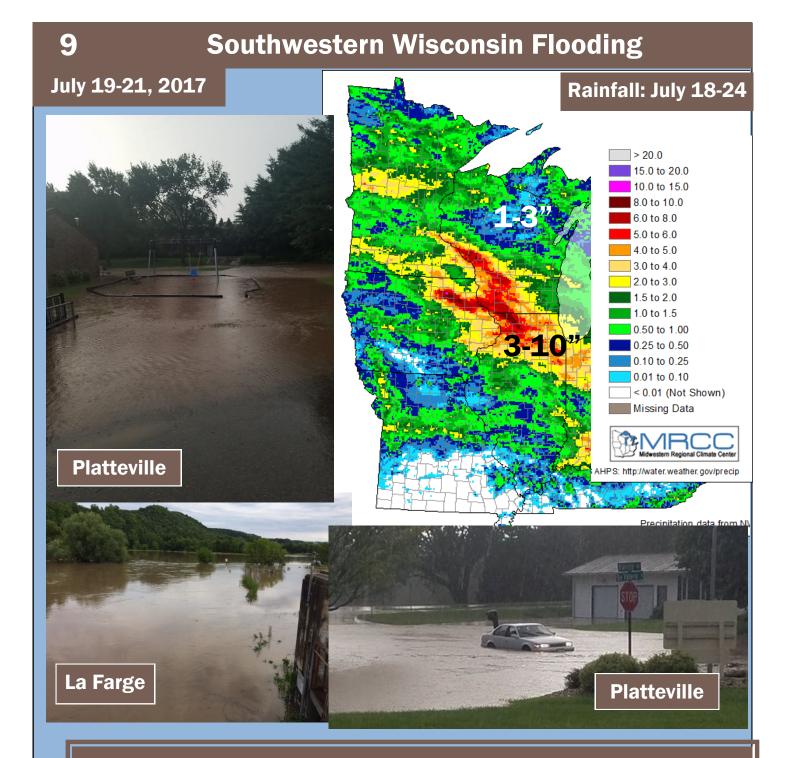


# **Burlington Flooding**

July 12, 2017

Heavy rainfall early in the morning on July 12th lead to flash flooding and then river flooding along the Fox River in Racine and Kenosha counties. Record river levels were reached at Burlington and New Muenster. Rainfall amounts of 9" were recorded on the south side of Burlington.

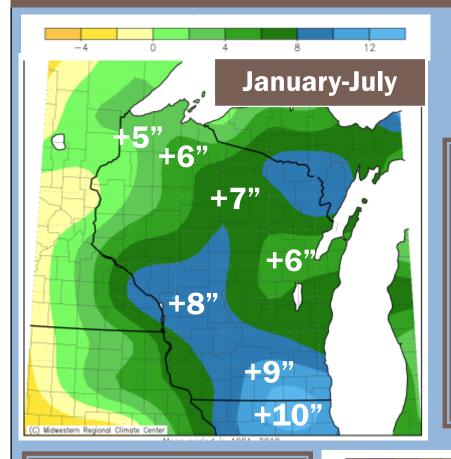




Numerous rounds of heavy rainfall occurred in the southwest portion of Wisconsin over mainly a 3 day period in mid July. Major flooding occurred along the Kickapoo and Grant Rivers. Numerous counties around the region were declared Presidential Disaster areas with millions of dollars in damage.



# **10** Wet First Half, Dry Second Half of Year



Departure from Mean Precipitation

It was a wet start to the year, which lead to many farmers planting late. Rounds of heavy rain continued into the end of July, particularly in southern Wisconsin

It all changed in August where conditions quickly turned dry and cool. Drought conditions occurred going into September when temperatures climbed into the 90s. While October had some above normal precipitation, the other months were below.

