

Summer Heat 2010

This summer's HEAT and DROUGHT in perspective:

"Meteorological summer" is defined as June through August. The following are statistics for the 91-day period since the start of the summer, from June 1 to August 30.

The following are temperature and rainfall statistics for the 2010 meteorological summer to date (June 1 - August 30). Records date back to 1897 at Evansville and 1937 at Paducah:

Summer of 2010 Temperature and Rainfall Stats (June 1 through August 30)				
Station	Avg. temp	Rank	Rainfall	Rank
Evansville	80.3	tie for 3rd hottest	6.84"	17th driest
Paducah	81.0	2nd hottest*	7.29"	12th driest

* Hottest Jun 1 - Aug 30 period is 81.1 in 1952 and 1954.

The HEAT WAVE of 2010 has ended:

At Paducah, Tuesday, August 24 marked the final day of 37 consecutive days with high temperatures at or above 90 degrees. This was the 2nd longest such period, which was superseded only by the record of 38 days established in 1993.

As far as consecutive days above 90, the streak of 37 consecutive days was the longest such streak in the history of climate records at Paducah. The old record was 28 consecutive days set in 2007, followed by 27 days in 1988.

Temperatures in review: The first part of the summer averaged warmer than normal. The month of June was consistently hot and humid. Paducah experienced its 3rd warmest June on record. A fairly strong cold front passed across the region at the end of June. This front brought several days of cooler and less humid weather. Seasonable temperatures during the first half of July gave way to persistent heat and humidity in late July and much of August. July of 2010 ended tied for 6th hottest July at Paducah. Neither June nor July ranked among the ten hottest at Evansville. August started with extreme heat, when daily records were broken at Paducah during the first week of the month. Much of the remainder of the month was hotter than normal until a cold front brought more seasonable temperatures for the last week.

Rainfall in review: By mid-August, moderate drought conditions existed over much of western Kentucky and southeast Missouri. Much of the summer has averaged drier than normal across parts of southeast Missouri, western Kentucky, and extreme southern Illinois. Rainfall has been somewhat more abundant over southwest Indiana and adjacent portions of southern Illinois. Keep in mind that rainfall from thunderstorms often varies widely over a small area.