

June 2013 Flooding

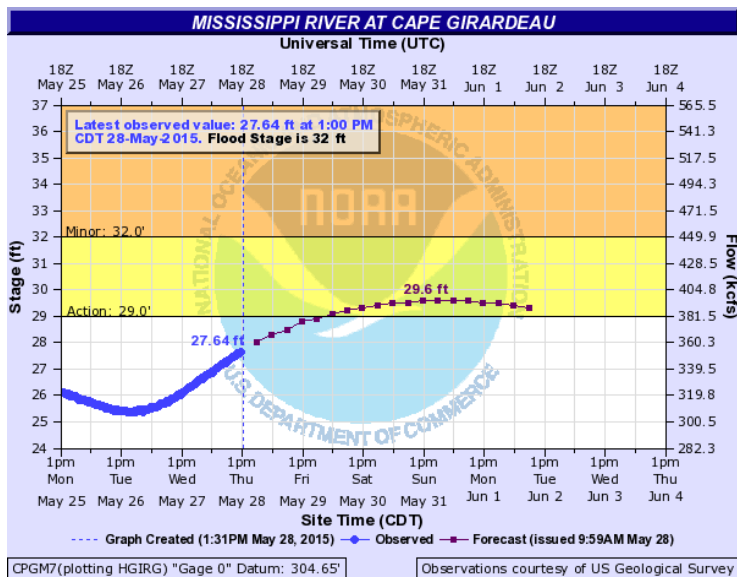
Meteorological summer is June through August, and it is off to a wet start across much of the Mississippi River basin. Major river flooding has occurred along parts of the Mississippi River early this month due to heavy rain in upper portions of the basin.

- Locally, anywhere from 2 to 6 inches of rain fell during the morning of June 1. The heaviest amounts occurred in an east to west band through Paducah, KY. Nearly 5 inches of rain fell at the Paducah airport within 5 hours. This resulted in major flash flooding early on June 1. Numerous creeks rose out of their banks, flooding houses, apartments, businesses, and closing many roads. Dozens of people were evacuated or rescued from their homes and vehicles.
- More rain was received on June 1 than during all of last summer (see below). The rainfall total for June 1 was 5.58 inches at the Paducah NWS office. It was the fourth highest rainfall amount on record for a single calendar day. The top four calendar day rainfall records are:

1. Sept. 5, 1985....7.49 inches
2. Feb. 13, 1989.... 6.24 inches
3. May 11, 1943... 5.65 inches
4. **June 1, 2013... 5.58 inches**

The rainfall on June 1 exceeded the rainfall for all of last summer. During last year's drought, only 5.43 inches of rain fell during the entire summer (June, July, and August combined).

Below is the most recent hydrograph for the Mississippi River at Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Click on graphic to visit the Cape Girardeau hydrograph page on the AHPS website:



The five highest flood crests at Cape Girardeau are:

- (1) 48.49 ft on 08/08/1993
- (2) 47.00 ft on 05/24/1995
- (3) 46.90 ft on 08/03/1993
- (4) 46.28 ft on 05/03/2011
- (5) 45.70 ft on 05/18/2002

Below are photos of the flash flooding that occurred in western Kentucky on Saturday, June 1 during the early morning:

Photo 1: Taken along U.S. Highway 60 near Interstate 24 in Paducah. Flash flooding of Perkins Creek affected the hotels and restaurants near exit 4 of the interstate. Photo forwarded to WPSD television by Nathan Clark.



Photo 2: Photo of a flooded hotel near exit 4 off Interstate 24. Evacuations were conducted at a couple of hotels near Perkins Creek. Photo from McCracken County Office of Emergency Management.



Photo 3: Photo of aftermath of creek flooding near Oakcrest Apartments in Paducah. Photo from Beau Dodson.



Photo 4: Photo of Oakcrest Apartments in Paducah, which were flooded by a nearby creek. Photo from Beau Dodson.



Photo 5: Photo of flooding on Highway 80 in Arlington, KY (Carlisle County). Photo by Charles Fisher, Carlisle Co. Sheriff Dept.

