



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 1999

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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ARKANSAS, Northwest

ARZ001>002-010>011	Benton - Carroll - Washington - Madison								
	01	2000CST			0	0			Winter Storm
	02	2000CST							

Summary of winter weather on January 1-2 1999:

A major winter storm was in its infancy as it moved across the south-central part of the nation on January 1. In advance of the developing storm, freezing rain developed over Carroll County on the evening of January 1, with rain changing to freezing rain across other northwest Arkansas counties as temperatures dropped during the early morning of January 2.

Carroll County was especially hard-hit by ice with the NWS Cooperative Observers at Eureka Springs and Berryville both reporting 1/2 inch of ice. The thick ice resulted in the loss of power to several hundred Carroll Electric Cooperative customers in Carroll and Benton Counties. Travel in Carroll County was impossible. There was widely scattered tree damage. The Governor of Arkansas named Carroll County one of six counties across northern Arkansas eligible for disaster relief funds due to damage caused by the icing.

By early morning on January 2, enough cold air moved in behind the strengthening winter storm to cause a changeover from freezing rain to sleet and then to snow. All four of the counties listed in this entry received from one to two inches of snow, causing slick and hazardous driving conditions.

ARZ001>002	Benton - Carroll								
	08	0000CST			0	0			Ice Storm
		2359CST							

Summary of events for January 8 1999:

Following the passage of an arctic cold front late on January 6, warm moist air returned over the top of the dome of shallow cold air. Drizzle then formed across northwest Arkansas on January 7. Where temperatures were below freezing, the drizzle froze upon contact with the ground. By the morning of January 8, roads in Carroll and northeastern Benton Counties had become ice-covered and travel was discouraged.

Sebastian County Hackett	21 1835CST								
	0			0					Hail (1.75)

The Sebastian County Sheriffs Office reported quarter-sized hail in Hackett, while the general public reported golfball-sized hail.

Sebastian County 1 W Greenwood	21 1853CST								
	0			0	1K				Hail (1.00)

Quarter-sized hail covered the ground. Location of this report: off of AR Hwy 10 Spur west of Greenwood. One home just east of

Sebastian County 1 E Greenwood	21 1857CST								
	0			0					Funnel Cloud

Sebastian County Ft Chaffee	21 1905CST								
	0			0					Funnel Cloud

Sebastian County 2 W Bloomer	21 1911CST								
	0		0.5	50	0	0			Tornado (F0)
		1912CST							

Several HAM Radio spotters simultaneously reported a tornado touchdown in an open area near the intersection of AR Hwys 22 and 96. Calls to the area revealed no damage.

Sebastian County 1 N Bloomer	21 1915CST								
	0			0					Hail (0.88)

Franklin County 3 SE Ozark	21 1940CST								
	0			0					Hail (1.00)

Sebastian County Hartford	21 1942CST								
	0			0					Hail (1.00)

Franklin County Altus	21 1945CST								
	0			0					Hail (1.00)



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ARKANSAS, Northwest

Sebastian County 2 SW Greenwood	21	2000CST			0	0	10K		Hail (1.75)
Nearby at Midland, large hail dented several cars.									
Sebastian County Witcherville	21	2015CST			0	0			Hail (1.25)
Sebastian County 5 SE Greenwood	21	2018CST			0	0	5K		Hail (1.75)
Hail of unknown size broke out car windows along Milltown Road 5 miles southeast of Greenwood.									
Sebastian County Milltown	21	2020CST			0	0			Hail (2.75)
Franklin County Charleston	21	2030CST			0	0	1K		Hail (1.75)
Large hail caused minor roof damage to the Charleston Post Office. Hail covered the ground in Charleston.									
Sebastian County Mansfield	21	2200CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
Sebastian County Barling	21	2225CST			0	0	13K		Thunderstorm Wind
A barn was blown away by thunderstorm winds. Power lines were also blown down.									
Sebastian County Ft Smith	21	2230CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)

Summary of events for January 21 1999:

Three rounds of severe thunderstorms moved across west-central Arkansas during the evening of January 21. The first severe thunderstorm moved across southern and eastern Sebastian County, eventually exiting Franklin County just north of Altus from 630 to 745 PM. Along the way, this storm produced golfball-sized hail and a brief tornado touchdown. The second severe storm followed a similar path but just a little further south from 730 to 845 PM. This storm produced hail as large as baseballs at Milltown. The final severe thunderstorm was more like a short line, causing two reports of nickel-sized hail from opposite ends of Sebastian County and a report of strong winds as it passed through from 1000 to 1045 PM.

While severe thunderstorms in January are unusual, the right conditions came together when a dryline moved into very unstable air and then a powerful upper level jet approached the area. The report of baseball-sized hail was the first time that hail that large had

ARZ001>002-010>011	Benton - Carroll - Washington - Madison	23	0000CST 0700CST		0	0			Heavy Snow
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Summary of events for January 23 1999:

Rain showers developed over northwest Arkansas on the evening of January 22 as a strong upper level low approached the area. As the upper level low and lots of mid and upper level cold air passed overhead, rain quickly changed to a wet snow. Despite temperatures at or above freezing while the snow fell, the snow fell heavily enough to accumulate at least 2 inches in parts of the counties listed here. Snowfall totals include: Eureka Springs...4", and Fayetteville...2". Snowfall amounts varied largely from one place to another. Some locations in the listed counties saw several inches, while other locations saw none at all.

ARZ010	Washington	30	1100CST 1200CST		0	0	4K		High Wind (G43)
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Strong gradient winds gusting near 50 to 60 mph blew over several trees and power lines in the Fayetteville and Springdale areas. The ASOS at Fayetteville's Drake Field measured a peak wind gust of 43 knots (49 mph) from the east at 1128 AM.

Sebastian County Greenwood	30	1338CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
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ARKANSAS, Northwest

Low pressure at the surface and in the upper atmosphere over southern Oklahoma caused a conveyor belt of rain and embedded thunderstorms to move from south to north across northwest Arkansas on January 30. One of the embedded thunderstorms produced an isolated report of marginally severe hail. The tight pressure gradient in advance of the low pressure center also caused a brief period of high winds in Washington County.

OKLAHOMA, Eastern

OKZ057>058-062>063	Craig - Ottawa - Mayes - Delaware					
	01 0000CST			0	0	Winter Storm
	02 2000CST					

Summary of winter storm events for January 1 1999:

The northeast corner of Oklahoma caught a glancing blow of what would become a memorable winter storm for much of the Midwest. The winter storm was developing as it moved across the central part of the nation on New Years Day. In advance of the system, there was freezing rain for much of the day in the northeast corner of Oklahoma which caused a thick layer of ice to form. By the morning of January 2, colder air filtering in behind the winter storm caused about 1/2 inch of snow to accumulate on top of the ice. This caused serious travel problems for many holiday travellers heading toward the Midwest. Power outages and tree damage were not widespread in northeast Oklahoma.

OKZ054>061-064>066-	Osage - Washington - Nowata - Craig - Ottawa - Pawnee - Tulsa - Rogers - Creek - Okfuskee - Okmulgee - McIntosh					
	07 2200CST			0	0	Ice Storm
	08 1500CST					

Summary of freezing drizzle events on January 7-8 1999:

Following the passage of an arctic cold front late on January 6, warm moist air returned over the top of the dome of shallow cold air. Drizzle then formed across all of eastern Oklahoma on January 7. Where temperatures were below freezing, the drizzle froze upon contact with the ground. Heavier drizzle then developed on the night of January 7 and caused more significant icing along and north of the I-44 corridor by the morning of January 8.

Roads and sidewalks became ice-covered and hazardous. All schools in the affected area cancelled class on January 8. More than 300 people were admitted with orthopedic injuries to Tulsa hospital emergency rooms because of slip-and-fall accidents. There were numerous traffic accidents caused by ice-covered streets. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol at Pawnee did not have enough patrolmen to respond to all of the accidents. While there was not enough ice to cause widespread power outages or tree damage, there were spotty power interruptions in Osage County and a power outage at Claremore in Rogers County affecting several

Pushmataha County						
Clayton	21 1619CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Pushmataha County						
Stanley	21 1623CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Latimer County						
Bengal	21 1729CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Le Flore County						
Le Flore	21 1745CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Pushmataha County						
8 SW Clayton	21 1753CST			0	0	Hail (0.75)
Le Flore County						
Wister	21 1754CST			0	0	Hail (1.75)
Choctaw County						
Bluff	21 1800CST			0	0	Hail (0.75)
Le Flore County						
Kennady	21 1809CST			0	0	Hail (1.75)
Pushmataha County						
1 N Clayton	21 1813CST			0	0	Hail (0.88)



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OKLAHOMA, Eastern

**Le Flore County
Poteau**

21 1815CST 0 0 2.6M Hail (1.75)

Golfball-sized hail caused major damage in Poteau. Many cars had their windshields broken out, their mirrors and antennae knocked off, and some cars were dented so badly that it knocked off paint. The entire police fleet suffered dents. Roof damage on many buildings was considerable. State Farm Insurance alone had 800 building damage claims and 350 auto claims stemming from the storm. The awning on the Black Angus restaurant on Broadway was shredded by the force of the hail. State Farm reported \$1.6 million in claims, and the Reed-Williams Insurance Company reported \$1 million in claims two weeks after the storm, and more claims were still coming in. All in all, this was a historic hailstorm for Poteau.

**Latimer County
12 S Wilburton**

21 1823CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Latimer County
7 S Bengal**

21 1850CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Haskell County
Lequire**

21 1855CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Pushmataha County
13 ENE Cloudy**

21 1900CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Le Flore County
1 S Heavener**

21 1921CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Le Flore County
Summerfield**

21 1924CST 0 0 Hail (0.88)

**Le Flore County
2 NNE Heavener**

21 1953CST 0 0 Hail (0.88)

Location: Heavener Runestone State Park

**Le Flore County
Hodgen**

21 1954CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

**Choctaw County
2 N Goodland**

21 2115CST 0 0 Hail (0.88)

**Le Flore County
Muse**

21 2130CST 0 0 Hail (0.88)

**Pushmataha County
Nashoba**

21 2130CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

Dime-sized hail covered the ground at Nashoba.

**Le Flore County
Panama**

21 2205CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

Summary of events for January 21 1999:

Several rounds of severe thunderstorms affected southeast Oklahoma on the evening of January 21. The first batch of storms was the worst as it developed in northern Pushmataha County and pushed northeast across extreme southeast Latimer County and on into Le Flore County to the state line near Rock Island. While this was a small storm, it packed quite a punch with hail as large as golfballs at Wister and Poteau. Other storms that evening produced hail to the size of dimes and nickels.

These thunderstorms developed in very unstable air in advance of a dryline as a powerful upper level jet approached the area.

OKZ057>058-060>062-066>067-070

Craig - Ottawa - Tulsa - Rogers - Mayes - Okmulgee - Wagoner - Muskogee

22 1900CST 0 0 Heavy Snow
23 0400CST

Summary of events for January 22-23 1999:

Numerous showers developed across northeast Oklahoma on the afternoon of January 22 as a vigorous upper level storm system passed to the south and east. As the center of the upper low and plenty of cold mid and upper level air made its nearest approach,



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OKLAHOMA, Eastern

rain quickly changed to sleet and then snow early in the evening in a band from near Okemah to near Vinita and Miami. Despite temperatures at or above freezing, the snow fell heavily enough to accumulate 2 or more inches in the counties listed here. Some snowfall totals include: Tulsa Oklahoma Highway Patrol Office...5", Tulsa NWS Office...3", Vinita...3", Wagoner...3", Pryor...2", Miami...2", Morris...2", Haskell...2". Some roads became snow-packed for a time, but most were simply slushy. Most all of the snow had melted off by late afternoon on January 23.

Pittsburg County

Mc Alester	30	0235CST			0	0			Hail (0.88)
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Tulsa County

Broken Arrow to 5 NW Broken Arrow	30	0848CST 0852CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
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At 848 AM, one off-duty NWS employee reported nickel-sized hail in Broken Arrow. A few minutes later at 852 AM, another off-duty NWS employee reported quarter-sized hail 5 miles northwest of Broken Arrow with the same storm.

Tulsa County

Tulsa	30	1200CST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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Heavy rains filled Fry Ditch Creek past its banks. The water spilled over South Sheridan Road at 96th Street, causing firefighters to close the street for a time. Most areas around Tulsa saw between one and two inches of rain late on the morning and early on the afternoon of January 30, 1999.

Summary of events for January 30 1999:

A low pressure system stacked from the surface into the upper levels slowly moved over northwest Texas on January 30. On the northeast side of the low, there was a conveyor belt of rain, embedded thunderstorms, and strong gradient winds across eastern Oklahoma on the morning of January 30. With surface temperatures in the 40s across eastern Oklahoma, it did not take much for the embedded thunderstorms to produce hail, some of it marginally severe.

OKZ063

Delaware

30	1000CST 1100CST			0	0	6K		High Wind
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Strong gradient winds in advance of a low pressure center caused arms and cable supporting a fishing dock near Grove to give way, allowing the walkway to break. A McDonalds sign was also blown down in Grove.

OKZ060

Tulsa

31	0500CST 2359CST			0	0			Flood
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The Bird Creek at Sperry rose above its flood stage of 21 feet at 5 AM January 31, cresting at 22.2 feet at 7 PM on January 31. The river fell back below flood stage at 2 AM on February 1.