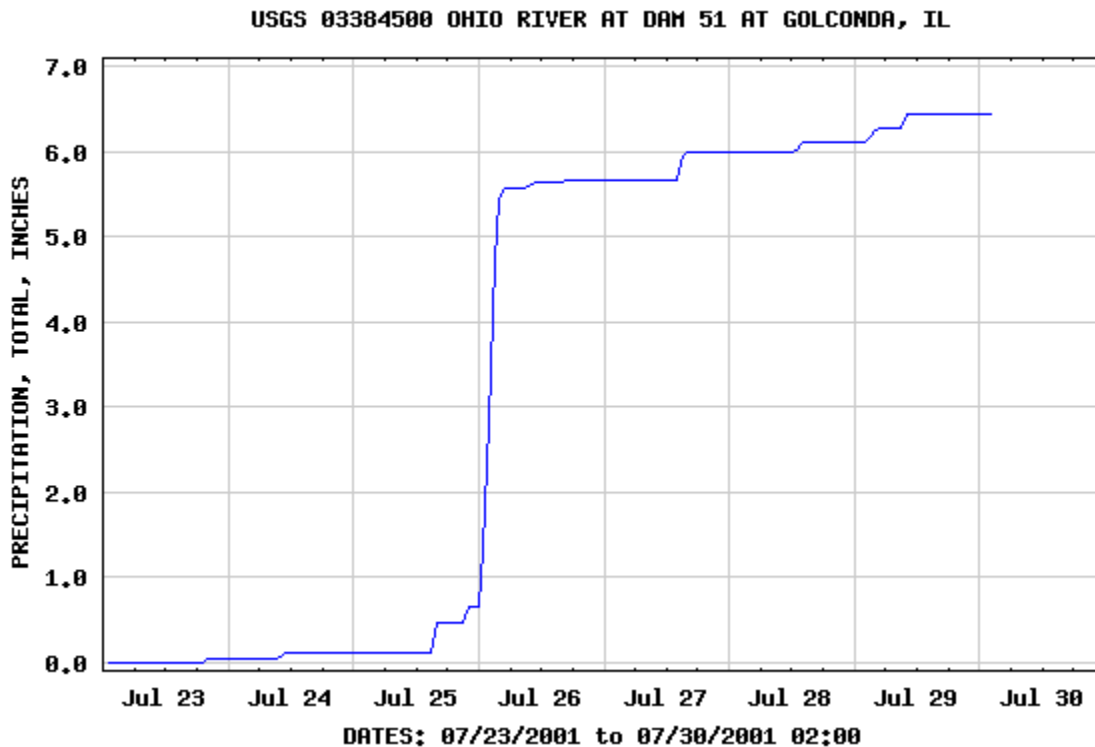


July 19 - July 29 Flash Flooding

Tropical humidity, combined with very weak winds aloft, led to day after day of slow-moving thunderstorm complexes in July. Although the rainfall was much-needed, copious amounts fell in short amounts of time, leading to localized flash flooding. The areas that were hard hit included Murray, Kentucky, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and Livingston County, Kentucky.

- Cape Girardeau, Missouri received 5 inches of rain in only 6 hours on the morning of the 19th. This resulted in rather serious flooding in the Cape Girardeau area, with numerous road closures.
- On July 24, unofficial reports of 5 inches of rain in 4 hours were received from Murray, Kentucky. Along Highway 121 in Murray, a motorist was rescued from his submerged vehicle.
- During the wee morning hours of July 26, more local flash flooding was reported in Pulaski County, Illinois and Livingston County, Kentucky. Over 100,000 dollars in erosion damage was done to roads in Livingston County. In Pulaski County, rushing floodwater blocked Illinois 37 in two places for more than 4 hours near Olmstead. More than 20 Pulaski County roads were closed.
- During the wee morning hours of July 29, flash flooding struck Gibson County, Indiana. Homes were inundated when Pigeon Creek overflowed its banks. Flooding of the Big Creek in Wayne County, Missouri, forced the evacuation of campers in Sam Baker State Park.

A USGS (United States Geological Survey) rain gage in Golconda, Illinois, measured close to 5 inches of rain in a very short time, as shown by the graph below. (Graph courtesy of the [USGS](https://www.usgs.gov/).)



Here are some rainfall amounts for nearly the whole month of July (through the morning of the 28th):

Cape Girardeau... 10.38 inches

Paducah... 6.96 inches

Evansville... 4.75 inches (2.78" in 3 hours on July 9)

A thunderstorm complex produced some damaging winds across the region on the afternoon of July 18. Tree and power line damage was reported in many counties of southern Illinois, western Kentucky, and southeast Missouri. The most concentrated areas of damage appeared to extend from just east of the Marion/Carbondale area southward to the Kentucky Lake region. The damage was by no means unprecedented, with most locations reporting "light to moderate" tree and power line damage.
