

Christmas Eve Winter Storm, 2002

This winter storm was primarily confined to southern Illinois and Perry County, Missouri. It occurred in two parts, with the first on the evening of December 23 and the second during the afternoon and evening of December 24.

On the evening of the 23rd, 6 inches of snow was reported in Perryville, Missouri. Lesser amounts of 2 to 4 inches were common in a band from Carbondale, Illinois to near Evansville, Indiana and east from there.

The second phase of the storm on the afternoon and evening of December 24 consisted of several hours of heavy snow in much the same area. From Perryville, Missouri to Carbondale and Mount Vernon, snowfall rates near an inch per hour were reported. Additional snowfall amounts of around 4 inches were reported in the same band across southern Illinois.

...CHRISTMAS EVE SNOWFALL AMOUNTS...

THE FOLLOWING ARE SNOWFALL REPORTS...MOSTLY FROM CO-OPERATIVE OBSERVERS...FOR THE 24 HOUR PERIOD FROM 6 AM TUESDAY THROUGH 6 AM CHRISTMAS MORNING. THE SNOW DEPTH ON THE GROUND MAY BE GREATER THAN THE SNOWFALL DUE TO SNOW RECEIVED PRIOR TO 6 AM TUESDAY. T STANDS FOR TRACE AMOUNTS. M STANDS FOR MISSING REPORT.

LOCATION	SNOWFALL	DEPTH	LOCATION	SNOWFALL	DEPTH
PINCKNEYVILLE IL	M	7	MARBLE HILL MO	1.0	1
MURPHYSBORO IL	M	7	VAN BUREN MO	1.0	1
WEST FRANKFORT IL	4.5	7	QULIN MO	T	T
WALTONVILLE IL	3.8	7			
PLUMFIELD IL	2.5	6			
DIX IL	6.0	6			
GRAYVILLE IL	5.6	6			
MT. VERNON IL	4.0	4			
SHAWNEETOWN IL	1.0	4			
HARRISBURG IL	M	5			
ANNA IL	1.5	2			
GRAND CHAIN IL	M	T			
...KENTUCKY...					
PADUCAH KY	0.3	T			
OWENSBORO KY	1.0	1			
SEBREE KY	0.8	1			
PROVIDENCE KY	0.5	1			
CANTON KY	T	T			
CADIZ KY	T	T			
PRINCETON KY	T	T			
HERNDON KY	T	T			
...INDIANA...					
STENDAL IN	3.0	3			
PETERSBURG IN	3.0	3			
MCCUTCHANVILLE IN	3.0	3			
EVANSVILLE IN	0.9	1			
GRANDVIEW IN	1.0	2			
...MISSOURI...					
BLOOMFIELD MO	1.0	1			
DONIPHAN MO	1.0	1			
JACKSON MO	2.0	2			

THIS WAS THE FIRST WHITE CHRISTMAS SINCE 1993 AT EVANSVILLE. FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES...A WHITE CHRISTMAS IS DEFINED BY THE NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER AS 1 INCH OR MORE OF SNOW DEPTH AT 6 AM CHRISTMAS MORNING. THE SNOW DEPTH AT PADUCAH WAS LESS THAN ONE HALF INCH THIS CHRISTMAS MORNING. THE LAST OFFICIAL WHITE CHRISTMAS AT PADUCAH WAS IN 1990...WHEN THERE WAS ONE INCH ON THE GROUND. IN 1992...THREE INCHES FELL AT PADUCAH AFTER 6 AM ON CHRISTMAS.