

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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### ILLINOIS, South

(IL-Z075) JEFFERSON, (IL-Z076) WAYNE, (IL-Z077) EDWARDS, (IL-Z078) WABASH, (IL-Z080) PERRY, (IL-Z081) FRANKLIN, (IL-Z082) HAMILTON, (IL-Z083) WHITE, (IL-Z084) JACKSON, (IL-Z085) WILLIAMSON, (IL-Z086) SALINE, (IL-Z087) GALLATIN, (IL-Z088) UNION, (IL-Z089) JOHNSON, (IL-Z090) POPE, (IL-Z091) HARDIN, (IL-Z092) ALEXANDER, (IL-Z093) PULASKI, (IL-Z094) MASSAC

01/05/09 23:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/06/09 06:00 CST	0	

Light accumulations of ice formed on elevated surfaces, including vehicles and highway overpasses. Up to one-eighth inch of ice was on vehicle windshields. A couple of semis wrecked on Interstate 24 westbound in northern Johnson County. One of the semis overturned, seriously injuring the driver and spilling the truck's cargo across the highway. The interstate was closed for several hours. At the Kentucky state line, the Interstate 24 bridge over the Ohio River was closed for a short time due to several accidents on the bridge. A few cars were off the road on Interstate 57 near West Frankfort in Franklin County. Multiple accidents occurred in Gallatin County, and the Shawneetown bridge over the Ohio River was impassable. Scattered slick spots were reported on roads throughout the region. A low pressure system skirted just southeast of the region, bringing a wintry mix of precipitation.

(IL-Z075) JEFFERSON, (IL-Z076) WAYNE, (IL-Z077) EDWARDS, (IL-Z078) WABASH, (IL-Z080) PERRY, (IL-Z081) FRANKLIN, (IL-Z082) HAMILTON, (IL-Z083) WHITE, (IL-Z084) JACKSON, (IL-Z085) WILLIAMSON, (IL-Z086) SALINE, (IL-Z087) GALLATIN, (IL-Z088) UNION, (IL-Z089) JOHNSON, (IL-Z090) POPE, (IL-Z091) HARDIN, (IL-Z092) ALEXANDER, (IL-Z093) PULASKI, (IL-Z094) MASSAC

01/15/09 03:00 CST	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
01/15/09 09:00 CST	0	

In the wake of an arctic cold front, gusty northwest winds from 15 to 25 mph combined with a surge of arctic air to produce wind chills from minus 5 to minus 15 degrees.

(IL-Z076) WAYNE, (IL-Z077) EDWARDS, (IL-Z078) WABASH

01/18/09 19:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/19/09 04:00 CST	0	

A vigorous upper level storm system moved southeast across the Lower Ohio Valley. This system produced two to three inches of snow east of Mount Vernon and along and north of Interstate 64 in southern Illinois. Three inches of snow fell at Mount Carmel.

(IL-Z075) JEFFERSON, (IL-Z076) WAYNE, (IL-Z077) EDWARDS, (IL-Z078) WABASH, (IL-Z080) PERRY, (IL-Z081) FRANKLIN, (IL-Z082) HAMILTON, (IL-Z083) WHITE, (IL-Z084) JACKSON, (IL-Z085) WILLIAMSON, (IL-Z086) SALINE, (IL-Z087) GALLATIN, (IL-Z088) UNION, (IL-Z089) JOHNSON, (IL-Z090) POPE, (IL-Z091) HARDIN, (IL-Z092) ALEXANDER, (IL-Z093) PULASKI, (IL-Z094) MASSAC

01/26/09 20:00 CST	51.13M	Winter Storm
01/28/09 06:00 CST	0	

A prolonged, major winter storm dumped 6 to 10 inches of sleet and snow north of a line from East Cape Girardeau through Vienna to the confluence of the Wabash and Ohio Rivers. This resulted in at least two dozen roof collapses and very difficult driving conditions. South of that line, at least one inch of ice accumulated, with locally around 1.5 inches of ice. This resulted in a federal disaster declaration due to widespread tree damage and power outages. Virtually 100 percent of Massac County in the southern tip of the state was without power. The vast majority of nearby Alexander, Pulaski, Pope, Hardin, and southern Johnson Counties lost power. A major 161,000 volt transmission line running across the Ohio River into Kentucky went down. Hundreds of power poles were broken or knocked down in the ice storm area. Power outages generally lasted three to five days in cities and large towns, while many rural areas endured power outages over a week long. Some towns without power lost their water supply because pumps could not fill water towers. A utility company stated the damage was much worse than the ice storm of February 2008, which was their worst on record up until that time. Warming shelters were opened throughout the ice storm area, from Gallatin County southwest across Johnson and Massac Counties to Cairo. Numerous roads were closed by fallen trees and limbs, including State Highway 1 in Hardin County. Blocked roads complicated efforts to restore power and aid storm victims. The U.S. Highway 45 bridge over the Ohio River to Paducah, KY was closed for several days. Some tree limbs fell on cars and houses, puncturing roofs.

In the heavy sleet and snow area to the north and west, at least two dozen roofs caved in. Most of the collapsed roofs were over large industrial and commercial structures. The roofs of at least three buildings in West City (Franklin County) caved in. The roof of a large metal building caved in and the walls bowed out. Another building that lost its roof was an equipment storage building at a trucking company. The third building was a business. In Harrisburg, the roof of a manufacturing building partially collapsed and damaged a gas line. Another manufacturing building in Marion lost part of its roof, which started a small fire. The building was totalled. The weight of ice and snow caused the roof of the Williamson County Pavilion to bow significantly. The pavilion is used for large public events such as boat shows. The roofs of at least six other buildings in Franklin, Jackson, and Williamson Counties caved in. Falling ice caused damage to guttering and facades of several other buildings. Awnings were damaged. In Carbondale, the windshields and roofs of fourteen cars were crushed by an avalanche of ice and snow from a strip mall. Roof collapses also occurred in Pulaski, Union, Wayne, and Hamilton Counties. In Wayne County, at least eight roof collapses occurred in the Fairfield area alone. Numerous motorists were stranded in

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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snow and sleet, but few accidents were reported. Ambulances had trouble reaching some people who called for help after slipping and falling.

An area of low pressure formed along the Gulf Coast, then tracked slowly east-northeast. High pressure remained anchored west of the Great Lakes, keeping a cold northeast wind flow in place in the lowest levels of the atmosphere. Copious amounts of moisture moved up from the southwest and overrode the cold air in the low levels. This moisture interacted with a couple of disturbances in the upper levels of the atmosphere moving from west to east across the region.



*Photo of heavy sleet and snow accumulation at DuQuoin, IL (Perry County) taken following the Jan. 26-28 winter storm. Photo courtesy of Jeff Profitt.*

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(IL-Z084) JACKSON, (IL-Z085) WILLIAMSON, (IL-Z086) SALINE, (IL-Z088) UNION, (IL-Z089) JOHNSON, (IL-Z090) POPE, (IL-Z091) HARDIN, (IL-Z092) ALEXANDER, (IL-Z093) PULASKI, (IL-Z094) MASSAC

01/31/09 02:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
01/31/09 09:00 CST	0	

Widespread dense fog developed across far southern Illinois, mainly along and south of a line from Carbondale to Harrisburg. Visibility was below one-quarter mile. Since temperatures were below freezing, light icing occurred in the thick fog. A light south wind flow of milder air over the snow and ice-covered ground set the stage for dense fog.

### INDIANA, Southwest

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(IN-Z081) GIBSON, (IN-Z082) PIKE, (IN-Z085) POSEY, (IN-Z086) VANDERBURGH, (IN-Z087) WARRICK, (IN-Z088) SPENCER

01/05/09 23:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/06/09 06:00 CST	0	

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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Light accumulations of ice formed on elevated surfaces such as vehicles. Some icing was observed on bridges, trees, and power lines. A low pressure system skirted just southeast of the region, bringing a wintry mix of precipitation.

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(IN-Z081) GIBSON, (IN-Z082) PIKE, (IN-Z085) POSEY, (IN-Z086) VANDERBURGH, (IN-Z087) WARRICK, (IN-Z088) SPENCER

	01/15/09 03:00 CST		0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
	01/15/09 09:00 CST		0	

In the wake of an arctic cold front, gusty northwest winds from 15 to 25 mph combined with a surge of arctic air to produce wind chills from minus 5 to minus 15 degrees.

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(IN-Z081) GIBSON, (IN-Z082) PIKE

	01/18/09 19:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	01/19/09 04:00 CST		0	

A vigorous upper level storm system moved southeast across the Lower Ohio Valley. This system produced two to three inches of snow along and north of Interstate 64. Slick roads and numerous accidents were reported. Most of the accidents were east of U.S. Highway 41. The snow accumulated to 2.3 inches in Fort Branch (Gibson County) and 2.9 inches in Stendal (Pike County). An inch or less fell south of the interstate.

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(IN-Z081) GIBSON, (IN-Z082) PIKE, (IN-Z085) POSEY, (IN-Z086) VANDERBURGH, (IN-Z087) WARRICK, (IN-Z088) SPENCER

	01/26/09 21:00 CST		31.60M	Winter Storm
	01/28/09 07:00 CST		0	

A major winter storm dumped 6 to 10 inches of sleet and snow north and west of Evansville, including Pike County. In addition to the sleet and snow, up to one-half inch of ice coated objects. This resulted in very difficult driving conditions. Numerous vehicles slid off roadways. Schools were out for several days. Isolated power outages affected a small number of people north and west of Evansville. From Evansville south and east, a major ice storm occurred. About one inch of ice accumulated. This resulted in widespread tree damage and numerous power outages. In the city of Evansville itself, several inches of sleet and snow were combined with nearly an inch of ice. The weight of the ice and snow caused a house roof to collapse in Evansville. Fallen trees and limbs blocked many streets in Evansville and cities to the east. Several ambulances became stranded in snow and ice. Evansville hospitals reported a marked increase in patients, including sprains and fractures from falling on ice. An exact count was not available. The Evansville Fire Department made 275 runs on the second night of the storm, compared to a normal of 10 runs per night. Emergencies included five structure fires and several people trapped by falling branches. Across the Evansville region, there was an increase in structure fires caused by alternate heating or lighting devices. Four-wheel drive vehicles were used to help transport essential personnel to their jobs. Red Cross shelters were opened across southwest Indiana. One shelter in the Evansville area housed 150 individuals at one point. The largest utility company serving southwest Indiana reported more than half their customers were without power the day after the storm. This was believed to be one of the largest outages in the utility's history, comparable to the remnants of Hurricane Ike in September of 2008. Power was restored to most residents four to seven days after the storm. The largest number of outages were from the city of Evansville eastward. Hundreds of utility workers were brought in from other states, including some even before the storm hit. Evansville stores quickly sold out of generators and chain saws. Hotels filled to capacity quickly during the ice storm. The National Guard was activated to help transport people from their homes to shelters.

An area of low pressure formed along the Gulf Coast, then tracked slowly east-northeast. High pressure remained anchored west of the Great Lakes, keeping a cold northeast wind flow in place in the lowest levels of the atmosphere. Copious amounts of moisture moved up from the southwest and overrode the cold air in the low levels. This moisture interacted with a couple of disturbances in the upper levels of the atmosphere moving from west to east across the region.

### KENTUCKY, Southwest

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(KY-Z001) FULTON, (KY-Z002) HICKMAN, (KY-Z003) CARLISLE, (KY-Z004) BALLARD, (KY-Z005) MCCrackEN, (KY-Z006) GRAVES, (KY-Z007) LIVINGSTON, (KY-Z008) MARSHALL, (KY-Z010) CRITTENDEN, (KY-Z014) UNION, (KY-Z015) WEBSTER, (KY-Z018) HENDERSON, (KY-Z019) DAVIESS, (KY-Z020) MCLEAN

	01/05/09 22:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	01/06/09 05:00 CST		0	

Light accumulations of ice formed on elevated surfaces, including vehicles and highway overpasses. Most of the icing problems were in the Ohio River counties from Owensboro to Paducah and Ballard County. Up to one-eighth inch of ice was on vehicle windshields. The Interstate 24 bridge over the Ohio River was closed for a short time due to several accidents on the bridge. A few icy spots were observed on overpasses in the Owensboro area. A low pressure system skirted just southeast of the region, bringing a wintry mix of precipitation.

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
(KY-Z001) FULTON, (KY-Z002) HICKMAN, (KY-Z003) CARLISLE, (KY-Z004) BALLARD, (KY-Z005) MCCRACKEN, (KY-Z006) GRAVES, (KY-Z007) LIVINGSTON, (KY-Z008) MARSHALL, (KY-Z009) CALLOWAY, (KY-Z010) CRITTENDEN, (KY-Z011) LYON, (KY-Z012) TRIGG, (KY-Z013) CALDWELL, (KY-Z014) UNION, (KY-Z015) WEBSTER, (KY-Z016) HOPKINS, (KY-Z017) CHRISTIAN, (KY-Z018) HENDERSON, (KY-Z019) DAVIESS, (KY-Z020) MCLEAN, (KY-Z021) MUHLENBERG, (KY-Z022) TODD				

01/15/09 06:00 CST	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
01/15/09 09:00 CST	0	

In the wake of an arctic cold front, gusty northwest winds from 15 to 25 mph combined with a surge of arctic air to produce wind chills from minus 5 to minus 10 degrees.

(KY-Z001) FULTON, (KY-Z002) HICKMAN, (KY-Z003) CARLISLE, (KY-Z004) BALLARD, (KY-Z005) MCCRACKEN, (KY-Z006) GRAVES, (KY-Z007) LIVINGSTON, (KY-Z008) MARSHALL, (KY-Z009) CALLOWAY, (KY-Z010) CRITTENDEN, (KY-Z011) LYON, (KY-Z012) TRIGG, (KY-Z013) CALDWELL, (KY-Z014) UNION, (KY-Z015) WEBSTER, (KY-Z016) HOPKINS, (KY-Z017) CHRISTIAN, (KY-Z018) HENDERSON, (KY-Z019) DAVIESS, (KY-Z020) MCLEAN, (KY-Z021) MUHLENBERG, (KY-Z022) TODD				
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01/26/09 20:00 CST	1	0.31B	Ice Storm
01/28/09 08:00 CST	1	0	

This historic, prolonged ice storm was called "the biggest disaster in modern Kentucky history" by the governor of Kentucky. The storm produced at least one inch of ice across western Kentucky. Locally very destructive icing around 1.5 inches occurred from the Mississippi River counties east across Paducah and Madisonville to Owensboro. This resulted in unprecedented damage to utility infrastructure in western Kentucky. One hundred percent of residents in the hardest-hit counties from the Mississippi River to Madisonville were affected by power outages. A utility company serving areas from Ballard to Livingston Counties reported that 20 percent of its system had to be rebuilt. The same company estimated damage to its system alone between 20 and 30 million dollars. At least 5,000 utility poles were broken or down. Power outages averaged about one week in duration, though outages varied greatly in length. Power restoration was slowed by strong gusty winds that started a few days after the storm. Outages generally lasted several days for residents of larger cities, and weeks for rural residents. Several thousand customers in rural counties remained without power three weeks after the storm. During the initial 24 to 48 hours after the storm, gasoline and kerosene were difficult to obtain. Some of the few stores that were open rationed food, supplies, and gas in the 48 hours following the storm. National Guard troops were called upon to assist with food and water distribution at the many shelters that were established. The troops helped clear roads, enforce curfews, and conduct door-to-door welfare checks. More Kentucky National Guard troops were activated for this storm than for the 1997 floods or Hurricane Katrina support. Many thousands of people stayed in shelters during the cold days and nights after the storm. Several hundred people stayed at a shelter in Owensboro, and hundreds more were at a Paducah shelter. Curfews were imposed from dusk to dawn for a few days following the storm. The storm was directly responsible for the death of an elderly man in Hopkins County who died of hypothermia. The 84-year-old man was discovered in his mobile home in White Plains. Nobody had been able to check on him during the ice storm, so the exact date of his death was undetermined. Ten other deaths were indirectly blamed on the ice storm. In Henderson County, a 48-year-old woman at home alone died from hypothermia. The woman had no power and no heat. Her pre-existing health problems were a major contributor to her death. In Calloway County, a 67-year-old man died from a combination of health problems including the hypothermia that prompted his admission to the hospital. Eight more fatalities were indirectly blamed on the storm. In Webster County, four people died during the ice storm. Two fell victim to heart attacks while moving broken branches or shovelling snow. One man died from carbon monoxide poisoning while staying warm in a running vehicle. Another person died because an ambulance could not reach the victim. In Christian and Graves Counties, a man in each county died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a generator. In Trigg County, a man died in a fire caused by an alternate heat source. In McCracken County, a utility worker died during a mishap involving a falling transformer and pole. Numerous injuries (indirect) occurred as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning, breathing fumes from stoves, heart stress, slips and falls, and gastrointestinal problems from eating spoiled food. An accurate estimate of the number of injuries was not available. A teenage boy in Hopkins County was seriously injured (direct) when a large tree limb fell on him. Dozens of house fires were sparked by alternate heat sources or electrical problems, including eleven fires on just one night. Most phone and internet communication was lost in the days following the storm. Both land line and cell phone service was spotty at best. Many cell phone towers were damaged or inoperable due to power outages. Due to power outages, some water and sewer plants were inoperable for a time. Tap water was not available in some communities. Many radio stations were off the air due to power outages. Tree damage was widespread. Most trees lost limbs, and some whole trees came down. Besides landing on utility lines, tree limbs landed on roads, cars, and houses. Downed trees and power lines even blocked lanes of Interstate 24 and the Purchase Parkway in spots. Most major roads were opened within 24 hours, but secondary roads were blocked for a week or more in some cases. Removal of tree debris by FEMA contractors from around the nation was expected to last well into the spring.

An area of low pressure formed along the Gulf Coast, then tracked slowly east-northeast. High pressure remained anchored west of the Great Lakes, keeping a cold northeast wind flow in place in the lowest levels of the atmosphere. Copious amounts of moisture moved up from the southwest and overrode the cold air in the low levels. This moisture interacted with a couple of disturbances in the upper levels of the atmosphere moving from west to east across the region. Some sleet was observed during the first several hours of the storm, and the storm ended with a few hours of snow that accumulated from one to two inches. Otherwise, the vast majority of the precipitation fell as freezing rain. From the Hopkinsville area east, temperatures hovered at or just a degree above freezing for most of the storm. This resulted in less ice accumulation and a significantly lower impact there. Across western Kentucky, liquid equivalents from three to four inches were common. The official county historian for Crittenden County stated this was the worst ice storm in the 167 years of the county's history. She stated this storm was worse than the major ice storm in February of 2008 and the one in 1902.

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Direct Fatalities: M84MH



*Photo of heavily damaged trees across the street from the Paducah National Weather Service office. Photo taken shortly after the precipitation ended early on the morning of the 28th by Mike York.*

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CHRISTIAN COUNTY --- 2.4 NE CASKY [36.85, -87.41], 3.8 ENE CASKY [36.85, -87.37], 3.8 ENE CASKY [36.84, -87.37], 2.0 NE CASKY [36.84, -87.41]				
	01/27/09 21:10 CST	0		Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	01/28/09 13:00 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement

The Little River near the city of Hopkinsville flooded out of its banks. The Trail of Tears Park along with a campground experienced flooding. The river overflowed onto Little River Church Road. Residents of flood-prone areas along the river were urged to evacuate. Between 3 and 4 inches of rain fell within 36 hours of the flooding.

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TRIGG COUNTY --- 5.0 SE CADIZ [36.82, -87.76], 4.6 W CALEDONIA [36.82, -87.76], 3.1 SE CADIZ [36.84, -87.78], 3.3 SE CADIZ [36.84, -87.77]				
	01/27/09 23:45 CST	0		Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	01/28/09 14:00 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement

The Little River and its tributaries were reported to be out of their banks. Fields and a few roads in the immediate vicinity of the river were affected.

Around the Hopkinsville area, temperatures rose above freezing for several hours. Temperatures of 32 to 33 degrees during most of the ice storm were warm enough that the excessive rainfall quickly ran off into the Little River basin.

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MUHLENBERG COUNTY --- 1.1 SSE PARADISE [37.25, -86.97], 1.0 SSE PARADISE [37.26, -86.97], 0.2 S PARADISE [37.27, -86.98], 0.4 SSW PARADISE [37.27, -86.98]				
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## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	01/29/09 05:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	01/31/09 23:59 CST		0	Source: River/Stream Gage

Temperatures during the January 27 ice storm were warm enough over the Green River basin to allow for rapid runoff. The Green River rose above flood stage at Paradise on the 29th and continued rising into early February. Through the end of January, only minor flooding of fields occurred near the river.

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(KY-Z001) FULTON, (KY-Z002) HICKMAN, (KY-Z003) CARLISLE, (KY-Z004) BALLARD, (KY-Z005) MCCRACKEN, (KY-Z006) GRAVES, (KY-Z007) LIVINGSTON, (KY-Z008) MARSHALL, (KY-Z009) CALLOWAY, (KY-Z010) CRITTENDEN, (KY-Z011) LYON, (KY-Z012) TRIGG, (KY-Z013) CALDWELL, (KY-Z015) WEBSTER, (KY-Z016) HOPKINS, (KY-Z017) CHRISTIAN, (KY-Z021) MUHLENBERG, (KY-Z022) TODD

01/31/09 02:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
01/31/09 09:00 CST	0	

Widespread dense fog developed across most of western Kentucky except the Henderson and Owensboro areas. Visibility was below one-quarter mile. There was a report of visibility only near 25 feet at Hopkinsville. Since temperatures were below freezing, light icing occurred in the thick fog. A light south wind flow of milder air over the snow and ice-covered ground set the stage for dense fog.

### MISSOURI, Southeast

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(MO-Z076) PERRY, (MO-Z086) BOLLINGER, (MO-Z087) CAPE GIRARDEAU, (MO-Z100) WAYNE, (MO-Z107) CARTER, (MO-Z108) RIPLEY, (MO-Z109) BUTLER, (MO-Z110) STODDARD, (MO-Z111) SCOTT, (MO-Z112) MISSISSIPPI, (MO-Z114) NEW MADRID

01/05/09 08:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/06/09 07:00 CST	0	

Light accumulations of ice formed on elevated surfaces, including vehicles and highway overpasses. On Interstate 55 near Scott City, a multi-vehicle pileup caused both sides of the highway to be shut down. There were some injuries, though their severity was not known. In Cape Girardeau, twelve accidents occurred. Most of the wrecks were on Interstate 55. An accident on the Cape Girardeau side of the Mississippi River bridge resulted in injuries. In Carter County, an icy bridge over Carter Creek on U.S. Highway 60 resulted in serious injuries to an elderly man. A spotter reported one-eighth inch of ice was on trees and power lines several miles northwest of Poplar Bluff. A low pressure system skirted just southeast of the region, bringing a wintry mix of precipitation.

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(MO-Z076) PERRY, (MO-Z086) BOLLINGER, (MO-Z087) CAPE GIRARDEAU, (MO-Z100) WAYNE, (MO-Z107) CARTER, (MO-Z108) RIPLEY, (MO-Z109) BUTLER, (MO-Z110) STODDARD, (MO-Z111) SCOTT, (MO-Z112) MISSISSIPPI, (MO-Z114) NEW MADRID

01/15/09 06:00 CST	0	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
01/15/09 09:00 CST	0	

In the wake of an arctic cold front, gusty northwest winds from 15 to 25 mph combined with a surge of arctic air to produce wind chills from minus 5 to minus 15 degrees.

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(MO-Z076) PERRY, (MO-Z086) BOLLINGER, (MO-Z087) CAPE GIRARDEAU, (MO-Z100) WAYNE, (MO-Z107) CARTER, (MO-Z108) RIPLEY, (MO-Z109) BUTLER, (MO-Z110) STODDARD, (MO-Z111) SCOTT, (MO-Z112) MISSISSIPPI, (MO-Z114) NEW MADRID

01/26/09 19:00 CST	0.12B	Winter Storm
01/28/09 06:00 CST	0	

This prolonged, major winter storm was termed the worst in decades for southeast Missouri. The storm dumped 6 to 10 inches of sleet and snow along and north of a line from Van Buren through Greenville to Cape Girardeau. This resulted in very difficult driving conditions along with at least two dozen roof collapses. South of that line, at least one inch of ice accumulated. Locally 1.5 to 2 inches of ice accumulated south of a line from Poplar Bluff to Dexter to Benton. This resulted in catastrophic damage to trees, power lines, and utility poles in places such as Dexter, Sikeston, Charleston, and New Madrid. A utility company serving much of the region reported this was the most damaging event in the history of the company. More than 145 miles of high-voltage transmission lines were down in that company's area alone. A utility manager stated that ice accumulation made high voltage lines five inches in diameter. This was sufficient to bring down the two-pole structures with crossarms that carry transmission lines. At least 6,000 power poles in southeast Missouri were replaced after being snapped or downed. One utility company briefed the governor that restoration of its facilities would cost 80 million dollars. Nearly 100 percent of residents lost power. Power was restored to most residents of cities and larger towns in 5 to 9 days, but the last rural residents went three weeks without power. Both cell and landline phone services were out for a few days in many places. Downed trees and limbs blocked numerous roads. Thirteen state roads were closed one week after the storm. Tree limbs landed on vehicles and punctured some house roofs. In the hardest hit areas from Charleston to Sikeston to Dexter, very few trees were not damaged. A few fatalities were indirectly caused by the storm. In New Madrid County, a woman and her teenage daughter died of apparent carbon monoxide poisoning from a gas-powered generator in the garage. In Advance, a 78-year-old man perished in a house fire likely started by an alternative heat or light source. No accurate count of storm-related injuries was maintained. However, Scott County alone recorded 20 cases of serious carbon monoxide poisoning. Scott County reported one person very seriously injured while clearing debris. A number of people throughout the region were injured in slips and falls. The National Guard

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assisted local and state agencies with recovery efforts, including door-to-door welfare checks in rural areas. Emergency shelters were opened for those without heat. Water supplies were interrupted in some towns where water towers could not be replenished by pumps. Gas was difficult to find for a few days due to a combination of power outages and high demand. A dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed for a few days in some cities, including Dexter and Sikeston. Some structure fires were sparked by alternative heating, lighting, and cooking devices. Numerous traffic accidents occurred during the first several hours of the storm, sending several people to medical clinics. An aluminum plant in New Madrid suffered severe damage when the aluminum being processed cooled due to the power outage. Production was reduced by 75 percent, and full production was not expected to resume for up to a year.

Heavy snow and sleet were the main precipitation types north and west of a line from Poplar Bluff to Cape Girardeau. The weight of the sleet and snow caused at least two dozen building collapses. In Wayne County, several buildings collapsed under the weight of the sleet and snow. A mill building collapsed near Patterson. Serious damage occurred at a marina near Clearwater Dam, where two boats were damaged. At Piedmont, a portion of a manufacturing warehouse and a law office building both collapsed. Elsewhere in Wayne County, a house and a storage building collapsed. Several metal buildings and carports collapsed in northern Stoddard County. In Cape Girardeau, the roof of a manufacturing company collapsed, and a large awning took down parts of the brick facade of a commercial building. Six to eight other buildings in Cape Girardeau County collapsed. No injuries were reported, but some animals were lost under a collapsed barn. A number of roofs caved in across Perry County, Carter County, and northern Scott County. A pallet mill and a manufacturing company sustained heavy losses in Carter County. The majority of structures damaged or destroyed in Carter County were metal buildings, barns, and sheds. In Carter County, National Guard troops assisted local first responders in distributing water and MRE's to those stranded in their houses. Law enforcement officials were forced to patrol in their personal four-wheel drive vehicles, since roads were not passable to cars. Phone service was disrupted in some areas.

An area of low pressure formed along the Gulf Coast, then tracked slowly east-northeast. High pressure remained anchored west of the Great Lakes, keeping a cold northeast wind flow in place in the lowest levels of the atmosphere. Copious amounts of moisture moved up from the southwest and overrode the cold air in the low levels. This moisture interacted with a couple of disturbances in the upper levels of the atmosphere moving from west to east across the region.

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(MO-Z076) PERRY, (MO-Z086) BOLLINGER, (MO-Z087) CAPE GIRARDEAU, (MO-Z100) WAYNE, (MO-Z109) BUTLER, (MO-Z110) STODDARD, (MO-Z111) SCOTT, (MO-Z112) MISSISSIPPI, (MO-Z114) NEW MADRID

01/31/09 02:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
01/31/09 09:00 CST	0	

Widespread dense fog developed across most of southeast Missouri except west of Poplar Bluff. Visibility was below one-quarter mile. Since temperatures were below freezing, light icing occurred in the thick fog. A light south wind flow of milder air over the snow and ice-covered ground set the stage for dense fog.

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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### KENTUCKY, Southwest

MUHLENBERG COUNTY --- PARADISE [37.27, -86.98], 1.4 SE PARADISE [37.25, -86.96], 1.3 S PARADISE [37.25, -86.98], 0.5 WSW PARADISE [37.27, -86.99]

02/01/09 00:00 CST

0

Flood (due to Heavy Rain)

02/05/09 17:00 CST

0

Source: River/Stream Gage

Flooding of the Green River continued from late January. At the Paradise gage, the river crested at 387.40 feet on the 2nd. Flood stage there is 380 feet. Minor flooding of low-lying fields and wooded areas occurred near the river.

Temperatures during the January 27 ice storm were warm enough over the Green River basin to allow for rapid runoff. The Green River rose above flood stage at Paradise on January 29 and continued rising into early February.