

766  
NOUS41 KBOX 280117 CCA  
PNSBOX  
CTZ002>004-MAZ002>024-026-NHZ011-012-015-RIZ001>008-281501-

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
**SPOTTER REPORTS**  
**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TAUNTON MA**  
**916 PM EDT SAT MAY 27 2006**

...IMPRESSIVE LONG DURATION RECORD CHALLENGING BOSTON AREA RAIN  
EVENT SUMMARY...

THE FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLING OF 4 DAY STORM TOTAL OBSERVATIONS FOR  
THE STORM THAT CAUSED MAJOR TO RECORD FLOODING IN PORTIONS SOUTH  
CENTRAL NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE NORTHEAST TIP OF MASSACHUSETTS WITH  
MINOR FLOODING IN OTHER PARTS OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND.

THE ASOS AND CO-OP DATA LISTED BELOW BECOMES OFFICIAL WHEN ITS  
CHECKED FOR ACCURACY ETC BY THE NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER.

THIS LISTING MAY STILL BE INCOMPLETE THOUGH ITS CONSIDERED RELIABLY  
ACCURATE FOR THE DATA AND DATE POSTED. THIS MAY YET BE UPDATED  
ONE FINAL TIME LATE FRIDAY...RESOURCE AND WEATHER PERMITTING.

WHILE THIS STORM DELIVERED RAIN INTERMITTENTLY OVER AN APPROXIMATELY  
100 HOUR PERIOD...IT WAS ORIGINALLY SUBDIVIDED INTO THREE SEGMENTS  
FOR DATA MANAGEMENT PURPOSES.

PART ONE...WHICH COVERED THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY FLOODING  
DURING THE DAYLIGHT HOURS FRIDAY MAY 12TH. ESSENTIALLY 5 TO 8 INCHES  
OCCURRED IN WESTERN HARTFORD COUNTY WITH LESSER AMOUNTS NORTH AND  
EAST OF HARTFORD.

PART THREE...THE FINAL SEGMENT...OCCURRED MONDAY AFTERNOON THE 15TH  
INTO EARLY THE 16TH WITH GENERALLY LESS THAN 1.5 INCHES. IT WAS THE  
PRIMARY UPPER LEVEL CIRCULATION THAT HELPED GUIDE RECORD RAINFALL  
GENERATING MOISTURE INTO NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS OVER THE PREVIOUS  
WEEKEND /13TH-14TH/ AND WAS FINALLY LIFTING OUT ACROSS THE AREA LATE  
MONDAY THE 15TH...AFTER HAVING BEEN ESSENTIALLY STATIONARY FOR  
SEVERAL DAYS FROM THE OHIO VALLEY TO THE MID ATLANTIC STATES.

SO...THE MAIN PORTION OF THIS UNIQUE LONG DURATION STORM OCCURRED  
FROM FRIDAY EVENING THROUGH MONDAY MORNING AND ITS CONTENTS ARE  
EMBEDDED IN THE 4 DAY TOTALS LISTED BELOW.

PENDING NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER CERTIFICATION...A NEW STATE OF  
MASSACHUSETTS MONTHLY RAINFALL RECORD WAS LIKELY ESTABLISHED WITH  
THIS EARLY WARM SEASON 4 DAY RAIN EVENT. THE SALISBURY NEWBURYPORT  
CO-OPERATIVE OBSERVER MONTHLY TOTAL FOR MAY THROUGH 6 PM FRIDAY MAY  
19TH...WAS 19.94 INCHES...AND WELL ABOVE THE PREVIOUSLY KNOWN MONTH  
OF MAY STATE RECORD OF 13.6 INCHES SET IN MAY 1984 AT PERU. THE NWS  
METAR SITE AT BEVERLY ALSO EASILY EXCEEDED THIS PREVIOUSLY KNOWN  
RECORD FOR THE MONTH OF MAY AND WAS 16.74 INCHES AS OF 1 AM SATURDAY  
THE 27TH.

ALSO EMBEDDED WITHIN THE DATA BELOW OF THIS REPORT ARE DAILY RECORDS  
SET THIS PAST WEEKEND AT BOSTON /MAY 13 AND 14 RESPECTIVELY/.

OF EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE FOR BOSTON CLIMATOLOGY ARE THE MULTI CONSECUTIVE DAY TOTALS.

BOSTONS 8.49 INCHES THAT OCCURRED OVER 4 CALENDAR DAYS ENDING MAY 16TH IS FOURTH HIGHEST 96 HOUR TOTAL IN ALL OF THE BOSTON DATABASE DATING BACK TO 1872. THE RECORD IS THE 12.47 INCHES FOR THE 4 DAY PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 20TH 1955. WHEN YOU CAREFULLY REVIEW THE DATA...THE SECOND AND THIRD RANKING 4 CONSECUTIVE DAY RAINFALLS WERE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS AUGUST 1955 TROPICAL STORM DIANE.

IN ESSENCE THEN...IN 134 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS RECORD KEEPING FOR BOSTON...THIS WAS THE SECOND LARGEST 4 DAY RAINFALL EVER!

THE 72 HOUR CALENDAR DAY 7.98 INCHES AT BOSTON WAS THE THIRD RANKED SEPARATE EVENT EPISODE BEHIND THE 7.99 INCHES ENDING OCTOBER 22 1996 AND THE MASSIVE 12.47 INCHES ENDING AUGUST 19 1955.

THE 48 HOUR CALENDAR DAY 7.61 INCHES AT BOSTON RANKED 4TH BEHIND  
ENDING 8/19/55 11.94  
ENDING 10/21/96 7.89  
ENDING 9/17/33 7.83

AND FINALLY FOR BOSTON...THE MONTHLY MAY TOTAL OF 12.48 INCHES AS OF 8 PM THIS SATURDAY EVENING THE 27TH IS NOW ONLY 0.91 INCHES SHY OF THE RECORD AND RANKS NUMBER 2 ALL TIME FOR MAY...AT BOSTON.

IT IS ALSO THE 4TH WETTEST MONTHLY TOTAL IN BOSTON RECORDS DATING BACK TO 1872. TOPS IS THE 17.09 INCHES IN AUGUST 1955 FOLLOWED BY THE 13.38 INCHES IN MAY 1954 AND THE 13.2 INCHES IN JUNE 1982.

THE BLUE HILL OBSERVATORY IN MILTON MASSACHUSETTS DID NOT HAVE NEARLY AS MUCH RAIN AS NEARBY BOSTON YET A NEW MONTH OF MAY RECORD HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT THAT 635 FOOT ABOVE SEA LEVEL SITE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 11 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BOSTON. THE 10.10 INCHES AS OF 1 PM SATURDAY THE 27TH SURPASSES THE PREVIOUS 9.16 INCH RECORD SET IN 1954. DAILY RECORDS ALSO OCCURRED THERE ON THE 13TH AND 14TH.

THE MAY 2006 STORM COMPARES FAVORABLY TO THE OCTOBER 20-22 1996 EVENT FOR NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS IN THAT BOTH HAD LARGE AND NEARLY STATIONARY LOW PRESSURE SYSTEMS SOUTH OF OUR LATITUDE THAT ON SATELLITE IMAGERY APPEARED TO INGEST A PLUME OF TROPICAL MOISTURE WITHIN THE VAST CONVEYOR OF ONSHORE ATLANTIC FLOW.

A PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF RAINFALL AND RIVER STAGE INFORMATION SUGGESTS THIS MAY 2006 EVENT WAS A CLEARLY MORE SEVERE FOR PORTIONS OF ESSEX COUNTY IN NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS THAN THE OCTOBER 1996 EVENT. RAINFALL AMOUNTS APPEARED TO BE SLIGHTLY HEAVIER AND FLOOD OF RECORD STAGES WERE REACHED ON THE PARKER IPSWICH AND SAUGUS RIVERS IN ESSEX COUNTY OF THE NORTHEAST TIP OF MASSACHUSETTS...HIGHER READINGS THAN IN OCTOBER 1996. HOWEVER...THE INTENSITY OF THE RAIN THIS WEEKEND MAY HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY LESS THAN THAT OF THE OCTOBER 96 EVENT.

A POSSIBLY IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1996 AND 2006... ANTECEDENT GROUND CONDITIONS FOR THE FIRST 11 DAYS OF MAY 2006 SHOWED MONTHLY TOTALS IN THE 3 TO 6 INCH RANGE. BACK IN 1996...A QUICK SURVEY OF MIDDLETON HAVERHILL AND BOSTON DAILY DATA SHOWED ONLY AROUND 2 INCHES OF RAIN...ALLOWING FOR A LITTLE DRIER PRESTORM SOIL CONDITION.

AS OF SATURDAY MAY 20TH...THE MONTHLY TOTALS IN ESSEX COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS ARE ALREADY BETWEEN 15 AND NEARLY 20 INCHES AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS. THE 6 PM FRIDAY MAY 19TH COOPERATIVE OBSERVER REPORT OF 19.94 INCHES AT SALISBURY-NEWBURYPORT CORROBORATES THE 19.41 INCHES AT ROCKPORT RECEIVED AT 6PM SATURDAY THE 20TH.

OTHER HISTORICAL EVENTS THAT WERE REVIEWED WERE

OCTOBER 2005 /INTERIOR SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND/.

10/20-22/1996 NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS NORTHWARD.

JAN AND APRIL 1996 EVENTS SNOWMELT RELATED

APRIL 1987 SNOWMELT RELATED

8/18-20/1955 DIANE RELATED WHICH STILL APPEARS TO BE THE AREA WIDE BENCHMARK FLOOD EVENT.

9/17-22/1938 THE HURRICANE OF SEPT 38...PRECEDED BY SEVERAL DAYS OF EXCESSIVE RAIN.

3/9-22/1936 WHICH WAS HEAVILY SNOWMELT RELATED.

A LISTING OF ENTIRE MONTH OF MAY TOTALS OVER 13 INCHES IS AT THE END OF THIS REPORT.

\*\*\*\*\*STORM TOTAL RAINFALL\*\*\*\*\*

LOCATION	STORM TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	TIME/DATE OF MEASUREMENT	COMMENTS
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>			
<b>..HARTFORD COUNTY</b>			
BRISTOL	8.00	645 AM 5/13	SPOTTER
UNIONVILLE	6.10	1020 AM 5/13	SPOTTER
GRANBY	5.91	1106 PM 5/16	
WINDSOR LOCKS	4.64	1012 AM 5/16	ASOS
NEWINGTON	4.60	1030 PM 5/13	SPOTTER
HARTFORD	3.75	1009 AM 5/25	BRAINARD ASOS

**..TOLLAND COUNTY**

TOLLAND	3.68	159 PM 5/14	SPOTTER
MANSFIELD HOLLOW DAM	2.70	800 AM 5/13	COOP

**..WINDHAM COUNTY**

WILLIMANTIC	3.74	1002 AM 5/16	ASOS
HAMPTON	2.70	800 AM 5/13	COOP

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**..BARNSTABLE COUNTY**

PROVINCETOWN	6.10	1005 AM 5/16	AWOS
--------------	------	--------------	------

EAST FALMOUTH	4.85	1133 AM	5/14	SPOTTER
CHATHAM	3.97	1004 AM	5/16	ASOS
HYANNIS	3.52	1014 AM	5/16	ASOS
FALMOUTH	2.61	1003 AM	5/16	OTIS ANG

**..BRISTOL COUNTY**

NEW BEDFORD	5.50	600 PM	5/15	SPOTTER
NORTON	5.32	944 AM	5/16	CO-OP
NEW BEDFORD	4.86	1014 AM	5/16	ASOS
MANSFIELD	4.78	222 PM	5/15	MAY TOTAL 7.02
TAUNTON	4.69	857 AM	5/16	ASOS
TAUNTON	4.63	859 AM	5/17	NWS
WEST MANSFIELD	4.15	925 PM	5/15	SPOTTER
ACUSHNET	3.85	811 PM	5/14	SPOTTER
FAIRHAVEN	3.20	100 PM	5/14	SPOTTER

**..DUKES COUNTY**

MARTHAS VINEYARD	3.92	957 AM	5/16	ASOS
------------------	------	--------	------	------

**..ESSEX COUNTY**

NEWBURYPORT	14.47	921 AM	5/16	CO-OP
ROCKPORT	12.64	315 PM	5/15	
TOPSFIELD	12.60	503 PM	5/15	SPOTTER
IPSWICH	12.46	515 PM	5/15	
GLOUCESTER	11.75	1021 AM	5/15	SPOTTER
SWAMPSCOTT	11.75	1023 AM	5/15	SPOTTER
ANDOVER	11.60	1031 AM	5/15	
BEVERLY	11.50	1017 AM	5/16	ASOS
MARBLEHEAD	10.74	812 PM	5/15	SPOTTER
SALEM	10.68	1019 AM	5/15	SALEM STATE
METHUEN	9.19	1000 PM	5/15	SPOTTER
LAWRENCE	9.06	1017 AM	5/16	ASOS

**..FRANKLIN COUNTY**

CONWAY	5.75	223 PM	5/15	
CHARLEMONT	3.00	735 AM	5/13	SPOTTER
GREENFIELD	2.81	921 AM	5/14	COOP
NORTHFIELD	2.59	1100 AM	5/14	SPOTTER
SUNDERLAND	2.42	947 AM	5/14	COOP
ORANGE	1.88	1001 AM	5/16	ASOS

**..HAMPDEN COUNTY**

SOUTHWICK	4.80	253 PM	5/14	SPOTTER
WESTFIELD	3.98	1012 AM	5/16	ASOS
CHICOPEE	2.85	1011 AM	5/16	WESTOVER AFB
SPRINGFIELD	2.25	100 PM	5/13	SPOTTER
WEST SPRINGFIELD	2.05	1151 AM	5/14	HAM RADIO

**..HAMPSHIRE COUNTY**

GOSHEN	4.50	612 AM	5/13	
WILLIAMSBURG	4.10	222 PM	5/15	
WORTHINGTON	3.93	1043 AM	5/16	CO-OP
WESTHAMPTON	3.80	748 AM	5/13	SPOTTER
WARE	2.37	103 PM	5/14	SPOTTER

AMHERST	2.21	800 AM	5/14	COOP	
<b>..MIDDLESEX COUNTY</b>					
WAKEFIELD	11.19	621 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
NORTH CAMBRIDGE	8.99	221 PM	5/15		
BILLERICA	8.47	1000 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
STONEHAM	8.47	727 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
NORTH TEWKSBURY	7.66	722 PM	5/14	SPOTTER	
BELMONT	7.60	500 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
TYNGSBORO	7.40	123 PM	5/15		
WAYLAND	7.37	925 AM	5/16		
HUDSON	7.36	825 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
LOWELL	7.02	1042 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
TEWKSBURY	6.38	650 AM	5/15	HAM RADIO	
CHELMSFORD	6.15	703 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
PEPPERELL	5.99	705 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
BEDFORD	5.61	1016 AM	5/16	ASOS	
AYER	4.86	1039 AM	5/15		
<b>..NANTUCKET COUNTY</b>					
NANTUCKET	1.89	1004 AM	5/16	ASOS	
<b>..NORFOLK COUNTY</b>					
MILTON	5.64	1013 AM	5/16	BLUE HILL OBS	ASOS
RANDOLPH	4.75	905 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
STOUGHTON	4.65	717 PM	5/15	SPOTTER	
SHARON	4.59	1034 AM	5/15		
DEDHAM	4.45	752 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
MILLIS	4.40	255 PM	5/14	SPOTTER	
NORWOOD	4.12	1015 AM	5/16	ASOS	
EAST WALPOLE	2.65	1052 AM	5/15		
<b>..PLYMOUTH COUNTY</b>					
SCITUATE	10.20	854 PM	5/16		
HINGHAM	7.93	706 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
DUXBURY	6.01	1136 AM	5/15	SPOTTER	
EAST BRIDGEWATER	5.50	1033 AM	5/15		
PLYMOUTH	4.76	1015 AM	5/16	ASOS	
BROCKTON	4.55	1033 AM	5/15		
MARION	4.00	1037 AM	5/15		
<b>..SUFFOLK COUNTY</b>					
WINTHROP	10.93	255 PM	5/15		
EAST BOSTON	8.86	1000 AM	5/16	LOGAN AIRPORT	ASOS
DORCHESTER	8.70	1030 PM	5/14	HAM RADIO	
<b>..WORCESTER COUNTY</b>					
FITCHBURG	5.02	954 AM	5/16	ASOS	
WORCESTER	4.18	1016 AM	5/16	ASOS	
ASHBURNHAM	4.10	942 AM	5/16	CO-OP	
ROYALSTON	3.22	905 AM	5/16	CO-OP	
WEST BOYLSTON	3.10	500 PM	5/13	HAM RADIO	
GRAFTON	2.81	805 AM	5/13	SPOTTER	
NORTH GRAFTON	2.59	926 AM	5/14	SPOTTER	

NEW HAMPSHIRE

..CHESHIRE COUNTY

KEENE	2.85	758 AM	5/15	NWS COOP
FITZWILLIAM	2.70	120 PM	5/15	
SWANZEY	2.32	1119 AM	5/15	NH DOT

..HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

MANCHESTER	11.05	1023 AM	5/15	SPOTTER
GOFFSTOWN	10.99	700 AM	5/15	
MANCHESTER	9.23	1008 AM	5/16	ASOS
SOUTH WEARE	8.40	625 PM	5/14	SPOTTER
HUDSON	7.89	1147 AM	5/16	CO-OP
NASHUA	6.90	1007 AM	5/16	AWOS
FRANCESTOWN	6.43	655 PM	5/14	CO-OP

RHODE ISLAND

..KENT COUNTY

WARWICK	4.67	1000 AM	5/16	ASOS
---------	------	---------	------	------

..NEWPORT COUNTY

NEWPORT	5.03	959 AM	5/16	ASOS
TIVERTON	3.99	707 AM	5/17	

..PROVIDENCE COUNTY

SMITHFIELD	3.85	956 AM	5/16	AWOS
NORTH FOSTER	2.96	1040 PM	5/14	CO-OP

..WASHINGTON COUNTY

WESTERLY	4.22	958 AM	5/16	ASOS
NORTH KINGSTOWN	4.13	930 AM	5/15	SPOTTER
BLOCK ISLAND	3.27	955 AM	5/16	AWOS

.....

MONTH OF MAY MASSACHUSETTS TOTALS GREATER THAN 13 INCHES AS SURVEYED THROUGH METARS...SKYWARN AND WEBENTRY

ESSEX COUNTY

SALISBURY-NEWBURYPORT	19.94	6 PM	5/19
ROCKPORT	19.41	6 PM	5/20
IPSWICH	19.26	7 AM	5/20
BEVERLY ASOS	16.74	1 AM	5/27
MARBLEHEAD	15.79	9 PM	5/19
PEABODY	14.74	9 PM	5/19
WEST PEABODY	14.60	9 PM	5/19
LYNN	14.48	7 AM	5/20
LAWRENCE ASOS	13.20	1 AM	5/27

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

READING	13.70	5 AM	5/27
---------	-------	------	------

PLYMOUTH COUNTY  
HINGHAM 13.89 7 PM 5/26

WORCESTER COUNTY  
GRAFTON 13.32 8 AM 5/20

MAY NEW HAMPSHIRE TOTALS  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
GOFFSTOWN 14.12 830 PM 5/19

GREENLAND IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY OF SOUTHEAST NEW HAMPSHIRE HAD 17.69  
INCHES AS OF ABOUT 6AM FRIDAY THE 19TH.

---

CORRECTION TO UPDATE A FEW AMOUNTS AND CHANGE REF MONTH TO MAY

[CLICK HERE TO GO TO PREVIOUS BULLETINS.](#)

---

[The Nexlab MA Page](#)

[The Nexlab RI Page](#)

[The Nexlab NH Page](#)

[The Nexlab CT Page](#)



[Main Text Page](#)