

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, APRIL 2006

NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average HI	Average LO	Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	GDD	CDD	HDD	Precip. (in)	Snowfall (in)
1	84	16	54	33	62	42	52	0	0	13	0.04	0.0
2	81	14	52	32	46	39	42.5	0	0	22.5	T	0.0
3	82	14	53	34	62	39	50.5	0	0	14.5	0.71	0.0
4	79	13	54	34	52	32	42	0	0	23	0.05	0.0
5	80	15	52	32	55	33	44	0	0	21	0.00	0.0
6	83	12	53	31	60	35	47.5	0	0	17.5	0.00	0.0
7	79	8	57	32	54	44	49	0	0	16	0.01	0.0
8	83	12	57	34	53	29	41	0	0	24	0.00	0.0
9	77	18	53	32	48	28	38	0	0	27	0.00	0.0
10	92	17	53	32	57	31	44	0	0	21	0.00	0.0
11	90	18	56	35	72	39	55.5	0	0	9.5	0.00	0.0
12	82	18	58	37	73	47	60	0	0	5	0.12	0.0
13	82	18	57	37	75	51	63	0	0	2	0.00	0.0
14	84*	20	59	37	84	50	67	2	2	0	0.04	0.0
15	85	17	60	38	80	47	63.5	0	0	1.5	T	0.0
16	87	16	59	39	75	47	61	0	0	4	0.04	0.0
17	87	22	60	38	54	43	48.5	0	0	16.5	1.29	0.0
18	87	21	63	40	59	43	51	0	0	14	0.00	0.0
19	90	22	64	41	68	43	55.5	0	0	9.5	0.05	0.0
20	84	22	63	42	69	46	57.5	0	0	7.5	0.00	0.0
21	90	22	63	43	75	44	59.5	0	0	5.5	0.00	0.0
22	91	20	61	39	70	48	59	0	0	6	0.05	0.0
23	91	22	62	40	65	42	53.5	0	0	11.5	T	0.0
24	84	17	63	40	71	40	55.5	0	0	9.5	0.00	0.0
25	85	21	64	42	74	36	55	0	0	10	0.02	0.0
26	92	25	67	42	48	33	40.5	0	0	24.5	0.09	0.0
27	91	22	67	42	64	35	49.5	0	0	15.5	0.00	0.0
28	88	25	64	42	72	43	57.5	0	0	7.5	0.00	0.0
29	89	25	62	41	72	46	59	0	0	6	0.00	0.0
30	92	29	65	42	58	52	55	0	0	10	0.98	0.0

*New Record

Temperature

1971-2000 AVG. HI: 59.1°F
 1971-2000 AVG. LOW: 37.4°F
 1971-2000 AVG. TEMP: 48.2 °F
 April 2006 AVG. HI: 64.2 °F
 April 2006 AVG. LO: 41.0 °F
 April 2006 AVG. TEMP: 52.6°F

Precipitation

April TOTAL: 3.49 in.
 April AVG: 3.46 in.
 SNOW: 0.0 in.
 AVG SNOW: 1.2 in
 YEAR TO DATE: 10.69 in.
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 8.53 in.

Degree Days

COOLING: 4/06: 2.0
 1/06-Now: 2.0
 HEATING: 4/06: 375.0
 7/05-Now: 5801.0
 GROWING: 4/06: 140.5
 1/06-Now: 144.5

Discussion

The combination of near average precipitation and above average warmth this April has ushered in the return of an old friend, Spring. The 52.6°F average for the month comes in as the 5th warmest April since 1966. Along with the April showers came daffodils, tulips and trillium, magnolia, lilac and a host of fruit trees.

Rain was scattered throughout the month, with about ¾ of an inch over the first week. The 0.12-inch of rainfall on the 12th marked the beginning of an active weather pattern over the next week throughout the Midwest. Illinois dodged a bullet on the 13th when a series of tornadoes touched down in eastern Iowa. While DeKalb area residents cranked up their a/c in honor of our record breaking 84°F, the system progressed into Indiana, where it spawned another handful of twisters on the 14th. The following day, another system began winding up over the central plains, which over the next 2 days produced 43 reports of tornadoes in Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, and left DeKalb with another 1.29 inches of water in the ground. The remainder of the month picked up another ¼ inch of rain along with an additional 0.98 inches over the closing weekend during an event that will kick off May on a wet note.

For now, the US Drought Monitor* shows parts of northern and western Illinois are still abnormally dry, however the state as a whole is not experiencing any widespread drought.

*US Drought Monitor website: <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

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Forecast Information (updated once daily at approx. 7:30 am): (815) 753-1623

The Climate Summary is supported by the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Operations

April 2006 Daily Highs and Lows with 1971-2000 Average Highs and Lows

