



Daniel Smiley Research Center
MOHONK PRESERVE
Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, NY 12561

Natural Science Note No. 651-11

Weather: December 2011

From records of the Mohonk Lake Cooperative Weather Station
Established January, 1896

	115-year average 1896-2010	Actual This Year	Deviation from Average
Temperature (°F)	28.8	36.1	+7.3
Precipitation (in.)	3.90	4.59	+0.69
Snow (in.)	11.7	0.5	-11.2

Highest temperature: 55°F on the 6th and 7th

Lowest temperature: 12°F on the 18th

Fog: 5 days (6th, 7th, 21st, 23rd, 27th)

Ice Pellets:

Glaze: 1 day (8th)

Thunder: 1 day (21st)

Damaging Wind:

Rime: 1 day (20th)

Haze: 12 days (4th, 5th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 25th, 30th, 31st)

Sun Dog: 5 days (3rd, 4th, 5th, 16th, 17th)

Partial Solar Halo: 1 day (16th)

Lake Ice: 1% on the 30th, decreased to <1% on the 31st

Snow on Ground: Trace from the 8th to the 14th

Precipitation pH: 4.95 (n=6)

Summary

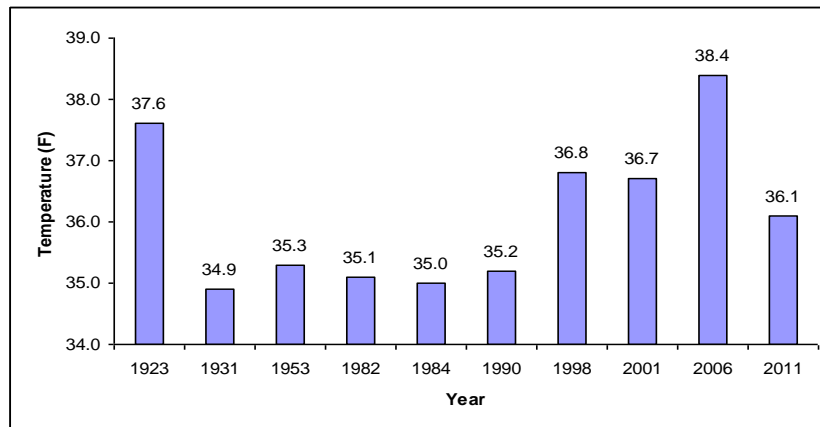
Temperature for the month was 7.3°F above the 115 year average, ranking this as the **5th warmest December** on record (see table and graph on Page 2). Precipitation for the month was 4.59 in, 18% above average. The total number of days with measurable precipitation was 11, 2 days above average. Total snowfall was 0.5 in, 96% below normal, ranking this the **7th least snowiest December** on record (see graph on Page 2).

John E. Thompson, Director of Science and Conservation
Ethan M. Pierce, Conservation Specialist

MOHONK LAKE COOPERATIVE WEATHER STATION

Highest Monthly Temperature: December

Year	Temperature (°F)	Rank
2006	38.4	1
1923	37.6	2
1998	36.8	3
2001	36.7	4
2011	36.1	5
1953	35.3	6
1990	35.2	7
1982	35.1	8
1984	35.0	9
1931	34.9	10



Lowest Monthly Snowfall: December¹

Year	Snowfall (in.)	Rank
1928	0.0	1
1943	T	2
1954	T	3
1989	T	4
2006	T	5
1999	0.4	6
2011	0.5	7
1923	0.9	8
1927	1.0	9
1905	1.5	10

T = Trace

¹ 1898 and 1899 were excluded, snowfall not recorded for these months.



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Summary for December 2011

Compiled by the MOHONK PRESERVE, Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, NY 12561

	Months	115-year Average (1896-2010)	Actual this Year	Deviation from Average
Temperature (°F)	Month	28.8	36.1	+7.3
	Season	48.4	51.2	+2.9
Precipitation (in.)	Month	3.90	4.59	+0.69
	Season	47.95	79.31	+31.36
Snow	Month	11.7	0.5	-11.2
	Season	15.0	17.8	+2.8

Highest temperature: 55°F on the 6th and 7th

Lowest temperature: 12°F on the 18th

This month last year:

Temperature 26.4°F

Precipitation 4.09 in.

Snow 14.5 in.