



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

Natural Science Note No. 605-08

Annual Weather Summary for 2008

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

Part I: Summary of 113th Year : 2008

Table 1. Annual Deviation from 113-Year Average.

	113-year average 1896-2008	Actual This Year	Deviation from Average
Temperature (°F)	48.3	50.0	+1.7
Precipitation (in.)	47.85	60.12	+12.27
Snow (in.)	59.1	57.6	-1.6

Table 2. Monthly Deviation from 113-Year Average.

	Temperature (°F)			Precipitation (in.)			Snow (in)		
	1896- 2008	2008	Deviation	1896- 2008	2008	Deviation	1896- 2008	2008	Deviation
Jan	24.8	29.4	+4.6	3.49	2.07	-1.42	15.1	13.0	-2.1
Feb	25.9	27.9	+2.0	3.29	10.09	+6.80	14.6	22.3	+7.7
Mar	34.9	35.3	+0.4	4.02	8.77	+4.75	11.3	3.8	-7.6
Apr	46.7	53.1	+6.4	4.14	4.11	-0.03	3.0	0.3	-2.7
May	58.0	56.2	-1.8	4.16	2.64	-1.52	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Jun	66.2	70.8	+4.6	3.99	3.73	-0.26	–	–	–
Jul	70.8	74.0	+3.2	4.49	4.91	+0.42	–	–	–
Aug	68.9	68.7	-0.2	4.33	2.41	-1.92	–	–	–
Sep	62.2	64.2	+2.0	4.34	6.05	+1.71	–	–	–
Oct	51.8	50.5	-1.3	3.90	4.14	+0.24	0.1	T	-0.1
Nov	40.3	39.7	-0.6	3.82	2.99	+0.83	3.3	0.3	-3.0
Dec	28.8	30.1	+1.3	3.88	8.21	+4.33	11.6	17.9	6.3
YEAR	48.3	50.0	+1.7	47.85	60.12	+12.27	59.1	57.6	-1.6

PART II: Extremes for 2008

Temperature

Highest Maximum	95°F	9 June
Lowest Minimum	2°F	3 January, 11 February

Precipitation

Greatest Rainfall , 24 hrs.	3.42 in.	13 February
Greatest Snowfall , 24 hrs.	7.3 in.	22 February
Greatest Snow on Ground	17 in.	1, 2 March
Average Annual pH =	4.52	(n=115)

Mohonk Lake

Ice Out	8 April	73-yr. average	7 April
Ice Over	22 December	70-yr. average	1 January
Height of Lake : Highest	-4 ½ in.		22 December
Lowest	-29 in.		24 October

Frost

Last Frost: 14 April	(32°F)	113-yr. average	25 April
First Frost: 19 October	(32°F)	113-yr. average	21 October
Length of Growing Season: 188 days		113-yr. average	180 days

Highlights

Average daily temperature for the year, 50.0°F, was 1.7°F above normal. April was the 3rd warmest on record. June was the 4th warmest on record, three highest maximum daily temperature records were set this month: on June 9th, at 95°F (previous high was 91°F in 2004); on June 10th, at 95°F (previous high was 92°F in 2000); and on June 11th, at 92°F (previous high was 90°F in 1997 and 2000). July was the 8th warmest on record. The highest maximum daily temperature reading on December 16th was set at 54°F (surpassing the previous high of 53°F in 1982 and 1987) and a daily maximum temperature reading was tied on the 28th (56°F ties the record set in 1949).

Total precipitation for the year, 60.12 in., ranked this as the 9nd wettest year in the 113 years of record. Wet months included the wettest February, the 4th wettest March, and the 5th wettest December.

A notable ice storm occurred on December 11th-12th, producing 5/8 in. of glaze and much tree damage above 900 feet elevation.

Paul C. Huth, Director of Research
John E. Thompson, Natural Resources Specialist

Highest Yearly Precipitation

Year	Precipitation (in.)	Rank
1996	68.80	1
2005	63.26	2
1990	62.79	3
2003	62.53	4
1983	62.41	5
1945	62.29	6
1902	60.75	7
1901	60.43	8
2008	60.12	9
1903	59.75	10

