

The month of May started off relatively tranquil across the state of Pennsylvania. Temperatures were near, to slightly above, normal for the first week of May with dry conditions and a persistent easterly flow as a high was entrenched just to the northeast of the state. Wet weather entered the region by the 7<sup>th</sup> as a slow-moving low traversed northward along the East Coast, which provided a sufficient supply of moisture from the Atlantic over Pennsylvania. By the 10<sup>th</sup>, most places saw rainfall totals in excess of .25" with Philadelphia airport reporting over an inch during this time period.

A cold front crossed the state late on the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>, bringing with it some more showers, numerous severe thunderstorms having damaging winds and hail, and a big cool-down to the area, dropping daily average temperatures in some areas to 10-20 degrees below normal. This large temperature drop marked the beginning of a "roller coaster" ride for the remainder of the month. Cool temperatures and scattered showers would remain the norm for the next few days, but warmer air would come back in to the region by the middle of the month. A stationary front located just to the south of the state was a focal point for shower/thunderstorm activity over southern PA for the next 4-5 days.

A surge of warm air ahead of the next cold front raised temperatures 10-15 degrees above normal for the 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> prior to the frontal passage on the 24<sup>th</sup>. This warm and moist air mass resulted in an active severe weather day on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, with numerous reports of damaging winds across the central portion of the state. Temperatures fell back to well below normal levels for the final weekend of the month as high pressure began to build in to the region and drier weather ensued. A very warm and humid air mass resided over the region for the last few days of the month, with showers and thunderstorms mainly confined to the northern half of the state.

Severe thunderstorm summary for the month: 8 hail reports, 75 wind damage reports, and 2 tornadoes resulting in 7 injuries. The most active weather days were May 10 (5 hail reports, 38 damaging winds reports), May 22 (1 hail report, 28 damaging winds reports), and May 28 (1 hail report, 8 damaging winds reports, and 2 tornadoes).