June 2014 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

By: Arthur Person

A complex series of disturbances acting on cold air to the north and warm air to the south served up a variety of weather for this sixth month of 2014 across Pennsylvania. Near normal temperatures started the month, but slowly edged upward to 7-10°F above normal by June 4th when a cold front knocked them back to normal. June 5-13 saw temperatures generally within 5F of normal across the state, though Erie was a bit warmer on June 11 and 12. Showers and thunderstorms were prevalent June 8-13 due to a frontal zone that stretched from Texas to New England. A storm and cold front finally ushered this zone off the coast on June 13, and a cool snap followed with near-record chill across the state on June 14. Canton tied its 38 year record for the lowest high temperature on record of 61°F previously set in 2002, while State College observed its second coldest high temperature of 63°F in 122 years of records. Other near-records included Raystown Lake 67°F (2nd coldest in 41 years), Stevenson Dam 65°F (tied for 3rd coldest in 45 years) and Towanda 62°F (tied for 4th coldest in 120 years). The chill only lasted a day, however, before the next disturbance began pumping warm air back across the state. By June 17, the northwest portion of Pennsylvania was near record high temperature levels as a wedge of heat entered the state sending Erie's daytime maximum to 90°F, tying three previous record years. The heat slid southeastward for the 18th tying the third highest temperature on record at Philadelphia of 94°F. The next disturbance brought this heat to an end as a cold front plodded southward across the state on the 18th and 19th, and with it, cooler weather once again for June 20-22. This also marked a period of weakening for the jet stream and associated fronts with temperatures meandering within about +/-8°F of normal for the remainder of the month. A weak disturbance with widespread rainfall crossed Pennsylvania on June 24-25 dumping swaths of 1-2” across portions of the state.

Overall, monthly average temperatures were near normal across the eastern half of the state while western portions were 1-2 degrees above normal. Monthly precipitation totals were near to above normal for the western and southern sections of Pennsylvania while the northeast counties suffered rainfall deficits. Areas surrounding Clarion, Venango and Butler counties Northeast which were 1-2” below normal. High winds from thunderstorms occurred on 11 days of the month. On June 11 a tornado with hail skipped through Bedford County, and on June 18 an EF0 tornado was observed in Clarion County.