May 2020

Summary

May 2020 was a story of two different months in one. The first half of the month featured largely cooler than normal temperatures, with frequently unsettled conditions. Nearly all of the precipitation fell in the first 16 days of the month, with even a half inch of snow falling on the 8th-9th. Temperatures fell below freezing on 4 separate days as well, bottoming out to 29F on three of those 4 days.

A significant blocking pattern set up over the Great Lakes region resulting in dry, warm conditions that persisted for over two weeks from the 17th thru the 29th. A monthly maximum temperature of 94F was recorded on the 27th-28th, setting a new daily record (the monthly record appears to be 98F set back on 5/23/92). Overnight minimum temperatures only fell to 66F and 65F on the 28th-29th and 29th-30th respectively, setting new daily record high minimum temperatures for those dates.

All in all, with very warm temperatures in the second half of the month, temperatures overall averaged a little more than a degree above normal for maximum, minimum and mean temperatures. Surprisingly, even with more than two weeks of zero rainfall, precipitation fell only a little more than half an inch below normal for the month.

Temperature

Average Maximum Temperature: 67.6F [+1.6F]
Average Minimum Temperature: 43.0F [+1.3F]
Mean Temperature: 55.3F [+1.5F]
Maximum Temperature for the Month: 94F on the 27th-28th
Minimum Temperature for the Month: 29F on the 6th-7th; 9th-10th; 10th-11th

Precipitation

Total: 3.28 inches [-0.64 inches below normal]
Greatest in 24 hours: 1.46 inches [30th-1st]
Snowfall: 0.5 inches [+0.5 inches above normal]
Greatest in 24 hours: 0.5 inches [8th-9th]

Wind

Average wind speed: 2.5 MPH
Peak Gust and Direction: 29.8 MPH from the South on the 9th

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Summary provided by: Brian Fitzgerald

COOP Observers: Brian Fitzgerald, Pete Gagne, Hank Dresch, Greg Fitch and Kevin Bennett

Pine Street, North Conway, New Hampshire

Period of Observation: 8:00 AM – 8:00 AM