

University of Waterloo Weather Station Monthly Summary - May 2006

Although the month had a promising start temperature wise, we saw a cold snap in the middle of May, bottoming out as it always seems to do during the Victoria Day long weekend. The temperature on the Monday of the long weekend only climbed to 7.8 °C after a low of 1.1 °C in the morning, I'm sure the led too many an unhappy camper. However, things turned around at the end of the month with 4 days well above 25 °C.

In the end, the average of the daily high temperatures was a miniscule 0.06 °C above the long term value and the average of daily low temperatures was 1.4 °C higher. This averages to 0.7 °C, making it a slightly above average month for temperatures overall.

The high temperature on the 29th of 32.7 °C was the highest May temperature ever recorded in the 8 year history of the University of Waterloo Weather Station (the previous May high was 30.9 °C on May 15th, 1998).

The last day when the temperature went below zero was May 7th (assuming it doesn't happen again till the fall). As it turns out May 7th is also the historical average for the last frost day.

It was all set to be an average month for precipitation, but then 33.8 mm fell on May 31st and it became an above average month. This 33.8 mm rainfall was the highest ever seen in a single day in the month of May at the UW weather station. However the month's total of 113.4 mm didn't get close to the whopping 145.0 mm we had in 2004.

We are still well above average for the year with a total of 435.6 mm compared to the average at the end of May of only 337.7 mm.

Environment Canada prediction of temperature for the month: Above Average
Actual Temperature: Above Average

Summary for May 2006:

Maximum Temperature 32.7 °C

Minimum Temperature -1.1 °C

Average Daily High Temperature 19.0 °C (Long term average 18.9 °C)

Average Daily Low Temperature 8.0 °C (Long term average 6.6 °C)

Total Precipitation 113.4 mm (Long term average 75.7 mm)

(Long term averages based on 1970-2000 data for the Waterloo Wellington Airport)