

January 16 Winter Storm, 2003

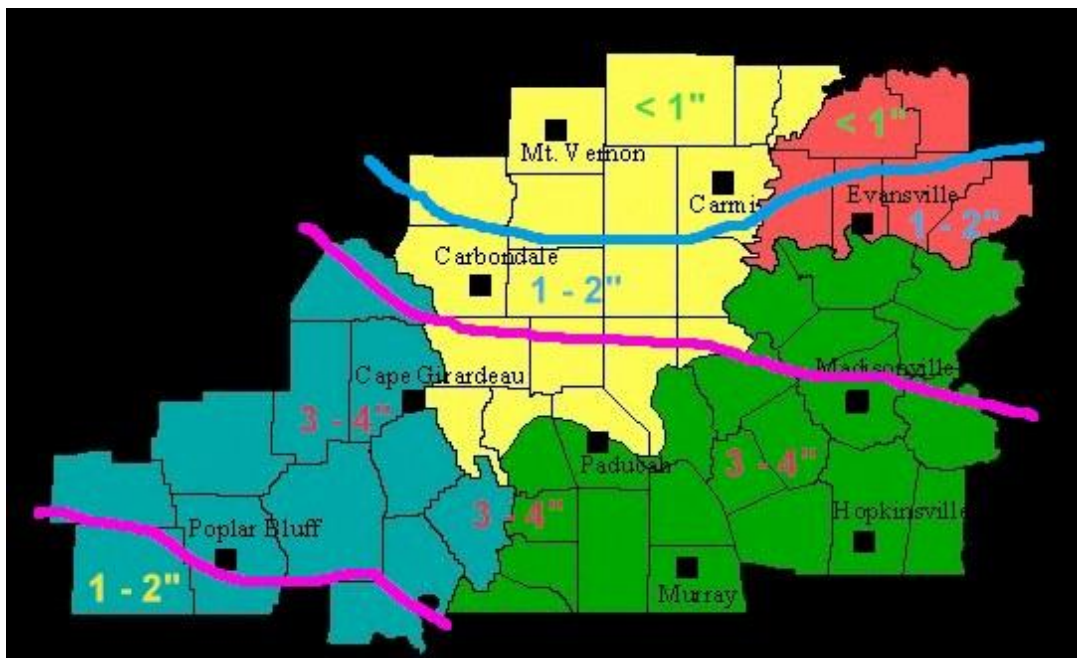
This winter storm was primarily confined to southeast Missouri and western Kentucky. The storm hit during the morning commute time on a weekday, so it had a major impact on traffic. The snow fell at the rate of 1 to 2 inches per hour around the morning drive time. Many schools cancelled classes. By noon, most of the accumulating snow had ended, leaving a blanket of 3 to 4 inches in most places. See the snowfall graphic below. The Evansville Tri-State area and much of southern Illinois escaped the bulk of the snow, with less than an inch north of Interstate 64. The snow was much slower to begin there, and its timing had no effect on the morning commute.

Cold temperatures limited the effectiveness of salt used by road crews, and some minor blowing and drifting occurred. Temperatures were in the 20's during the snowstorm, and around 10 by the morning of the 17th. Refreezing of moisture occurred after dark, causing another round of accidents after the snow had ended.

The snow was caused by a moderately strong upper level disturbance that moved east from the Plains, then across Tennessee. A weak low pressure system followed about the same path, passing just south of Missouri and Kentucky.



The snowfall graphic below shows storm total snowfall for Jan. 16, 2003.



...SNOWFALL REPORTS TODAY...

PLACE	COUNTY	SNOWFALL
HOPKINSVILLE KY	CHRISTIAN	2.5 INCHES
NEW CONCORD KY	CALLOWAY	2.7 INCHES
NEW MADRID MO	NEW MADRID	4 INCHES
FRIEDHEIM MO	CAPE GIRARDEAU	2 INCHES
CHARLESTON MO	MISSISSIPPI	3 INCHES
EAST PRAIRIE MO	MISSISSIPPI	5 INCHES
DRAFFENVILLE KY	MARSHALL	3 INCHES
PRINCETON KY	CALDWELL	3 INCHES
WILLIAMSVILLE MO	WAYNE	3.5 INCHES
CLINTON KY	HICKMAN	4 INCHES
CENTRAL CITY KY	MUHLENBERG	3 INCHES
CARBONDALE IL	JACKSON	2 INCHES
MAYFIELD KY	GRAVES	4 INCHES
HAMLIN KY	CALLOWAY	4 INCHES
BENTON KY	MARSHALL	2.5 INCHES
PADUCAH KY	MCCRACKEN	3.5 INCHES
CALVERT CITY KY	MARSHALL	2.5 INCHES
MURRAY KY	CALLOWAY	4 INCHES
CANTON KY	TRIGG	3 INCHES
ELKTON KY	TODD	4 INCHES
HERNDON KY	CHRISTIAN	4 INCHES
ELLSINORE MO	CARTER	4 INCHES
PERRYVILLE MO	PERRY	3 INCHES
VAN BUREN MO	CARTER	3 INCHES
DONIPHAN MO	RIPLEY	2 INCHES
SIKESTON MO	SCOTT	3 INCHES
JACKSON MO	CAPE GIRARDEAU	3 INCHES
CAPE GIRARDEAU MO	CAPE GIRARDEAU	3-4 INCHES
AVA IL	JACKSON	1 INCH
ULLIN IL	PULASKI	3 INCHES
MOUNDS CITY IL	PULASKI	4 INCHES
ANNA IL	UNION	3 INCHES
BARLOW KY	BALLARD	4 INCHES
CAIRO IL	ALEXANDER	4 INCHES
DEXTER MO	STODDARD	2 INCHES
EDDYVILLE IL	POPE	3 INCHES
HARRISBURG IL	SALINE	1 INCH
MARION KY	CRITTENDON	3 INCHES
WAPPAPELLO MO	WAYNE	4-5 INCHES
GREENVILLE KY	MUHLENBERG	4 INCHES
MORTONS GAP KY	HOPKINS	4 INCHES
STURGIS KY	UNION	3 INCHES
CLAY KY	WEBSTER	2 INCHES
CAIRO KY	HENDERSON	2 INCHES
OWENSBORO KY	DAVISS	1 INCH
HATFIELD IN	SPENCER	2 INCHES
EVANSVILLE IN	VANDERBURGH	1 INCH
NEWBURGH IN	WARRICK	1 INCH

THANKS TO THE MEDIA...COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS...AND SPOTTERS FOR SENDING IN THEIR REPORTS.

The satellite photo below was taken on the morning after the snow. It shows a wide area of snowcover, but much of southern Illinois escaped the snow.

