



Volume 1 - Issue 2 - Nov 2010

connection



Stay tuned in to Oklahoma's weather with the new mobile Mesonet site. It offers easy on-the-go weather information for smart phones users.

A MOBILE MESONET SITE is now available for smart phone users. The Mesonet recently released a new website designed specifically for mobile devices. This allows users to easily access Mesonet data anywhere Internet is available. "We are really excited about the mobile Mesonet site," said Al Sutherland, Mesonet Ag program coordinator. "It is very easy to get on and see exactly what is happening with the weather." The mobile site is a simplified version of the original Mesonet site. Many of the graphical weather products are included such as air temperature, radar and rainfall maps." The mobile site is simple and designed to work better on smaller screens," said Mike Wolfinbarger, Mesonet Director of Technology. "This site is for anybody with a smart phone who wants to know the weather in Oklahoma."

The new site was designed to be compatible with as many devices as possible and provides direct access to Mesonet products and maps. "If you pull up the Mesonet home page on your phone, it automatically transfers you to the new mobile site," said Stdrovia Blackburn, Mesonet Web Developer. "It's easy to use. You get a list of categories. You pick a category and then you get a list of products. You pick a product and then you get your map or whatever it was you were looking for."

There are no fees or software required to use the mobile Mesonet site. It is simple and easy to use. The mobile site at m.mesonet.org also is recommended for people with a slow Internet connection to use in place of the original www.mesonet.org site, said Blackburn.

Although it has only been available for a couple of months, users are already enthusiastic about the possibilities of the mobile Mesonet site. "The main comment I hear is 'Oh, wow! I didn't know that was out there'. If a user has Internet access, they are pretty excited about getting the Mesonet on their phone," said Sutherland. "I personally have been getting on and using the radar to find storms that are heading my way so I know what to prepare for."

To check out the mobile Mesonet site, go to m.mesonet.org. For more information, call 405-325-2541.

WHERE TO FIND IT

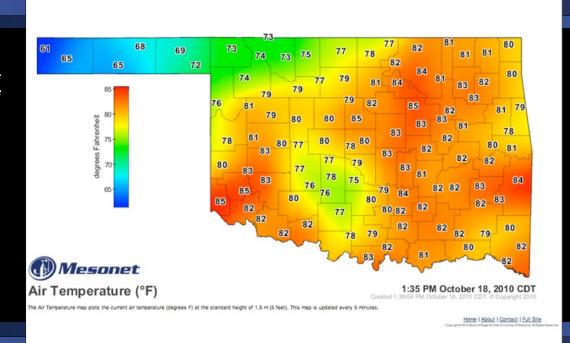
Simple and easy

- The web address is m.mesonet.org.
- The new mobile Mesonet website provides a simple list of weather categories.
- Select a category and you will get a list of products that will lead you to the map or data you are interested in.

	⚠ Mesonet
Weather	
Local Weather	
Current Conditions	
Air Temperature	
Rainfall	
Wind	
Dewpoint & Humidity	
Soil Temperature	
Soil Moisture	
Pressure	
Solar Radiation	
Station Meteograms	
Local Radar	
Regional Satellite	
	Home About Contact Full Site Copyright © 2010 Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma. All Rights Reserved.

Temperature

- Temperature maps are among the most popular maps on the mobile Mesonet site.
- From the home page at <u>m.mesonet.org</u>, choose the "Air Temperature" category.
- There are a list of temperature maps to choose from, including maximum and minimum temperatures, wind chill, temperature change and hours below freezing.





WHERE TO FIND IT

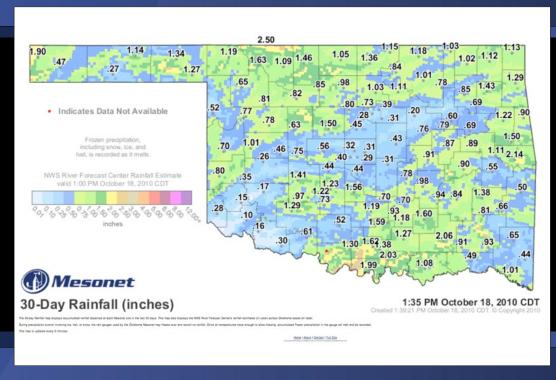
Radar

- Radar maps are also among the most popular maps on the mobile Mesonet site.
- From the home page at <u>m.mesonet.org</u>, choose the "Local Radar" category.
- There are 15 radar locations to choose from.



Rain

- From the home page at <u>m.mesonet.org</u>, choose the "Rainfall" category.
- There are more than 10 different rainfall maps offered including "Rainfall Since Midnight," "24-hour Rainfall Accumulation" and "30-day Rainfall Accumulation."







GOODBYE RAINFALL

By Gary McManus, Associate State Climatologist

SEPTEMBER WRAP-UP

Oklahoma's penchant for warmer-than-normal months continued during September and depending on where you live, you probably had either too much or too little rain to go with that warmth. The September statewide average temperature was 74.5 degrees. That marks September as the 29th warmest since 1895, 2.1 degrees above normal. While the statewide average rainfall of 3.99 inches ranks as the 36th wettest on record at 0.18 inches above normal, much of the state was actually quite dry during the month. Very heavy rainfall from the remnants of Tropical Storm Hermine provided some rather gaudy totals in southern and east central Oklahoma. Sallisaw received over 10 inches from the storm to help it finish as the wettest spot in the state with 14.97 inches. On the other hand, the Oklahoma Mesonet station at Goodwell barely wet its rain gauge with a meager 0.2 inches and 25 Mesonet stations recorded less than 2 inches of rainfall for the month. The warmth during the month was much more widespread with only a small portion of northeastern Oklahoma ending up below normal. Grandfield had the highest average monthly temperature at 78 degrees while Kenton was on the cool side at 70.7 degrees. The highest temperature recorded by the Mesonet was 105 degrees at Beaver twice and once at Erick. The prize for the coldest spot in the state was won by Oilton with a chilly 36 degrees on the 27th.

GOODBYE HALLOWEEN, GOODBYE RAINFALL

We are rapidly winding down our secondary rainy season, which basically lasts from September through early November. Looking at past Mesonet data, a precipitation drop-off shows up pretty clearly after Halloween. In addition to that, the latest drought outlook released by the Climate Prediction Center indicates droughty conditions to not only persist in Oklahoma, but also to spread a bit more through January.

HELLO LA NIÑA

Oklahoma is currently experiencing a La Niña weather pattern, which translates into warmer and drier weather. The Climate Prediction Center predicts an increased chance for warmer-and drier-than-normal weather in Oklahoma to persist through the winter months, meaning a milder and possibly drier winter for Oklahoma. The current La Niña is expected to continue strengthening and remain in place throughout the 2010-11 winter season. It is important to note that a warmer and drier winter does not necessarily translate into a season free of ice and snow. Significant individual ice and snow events can still occur within longer dry periods. For example, severe ice storms struck Oklahoma during the La Niña winters of December 2000 and 2007. Each La Niña episode can develop differently and be influenced by other climate factors.

105°F REACHED

at Beaver and Erick, the highest temperature in September

14.97 INCHES

of rain fell at the Sallisaw Mesonet station in September

74.5°F AVERAGE

temperature in Oklahoma this September

0.2
INCHES
of rain fell at the Goodwell
Mesonet station in September



STAYING CONNECTED

with Facebook and Twitter

WEATHER ENTHUSIASTS

can now track exciting weather events and Mesonet news through the social networking sites Facebook and Twitter. "We try to touch on recent events and then point back to Mesonet products that support it. For example, a rain event that replenishes the 2-inch soil moisture," said Maggie Hoey, marketing team leader.

FACEBOOK

Facebook is a free way to connect and interact with friends, businesses and organizations including the Mesonet. It allows detailed messages to be posted. "Facebook also allows an outlet for Mesonet users with questions and feedback," said Hoey. The Mesonet actively maintains their Facebook account and posts relevant information several times a week. "I would say we post three to five times a week. We might post more than that. It depends on the weather and how busy we are," said Hoey. To check out the Mesonet's Facebook site, go to www.facebook.com/mesonet.

TWITTER

Twitter is a free way to get short and timely messages from the Mesonet. "Twitter must be under 140 letters. It's very quick," said Hoey. The Mesonet usually tweets at least once a day. "We have been actively maintaining it where we update daily," said Cindy Morgan, Mesonet meteorologist. "We try to post stuff that would interest our users. Sometimes we highlight our products and discuss interesting things that are going on." Anyone interested in getting short updates about Oklahoma weather should check out www.twitter.com/okmesonet.

ON THE GO

Facebook and Twitter can be accessed by a mobile device. If you have an Internet capable cell phone, free applications can be downloaded for both. For more information, call 405-325-3231.



CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- ▶ 11.2.10 to 11.4.10: Oklahoma Ag Expo, Oklahoma City. For information, call Maggie Hoey at 405-325-3126
- ▶ 11.6.10: National Weather Festival, Norman, Okla. For information, call Andrea Melvin at 405-325-2652
- ▶ 11.19.10: Oklahoma Farm Bureau Conference, Oklahoma City, Okla. For information, call Maggie Hoey at 405-325-3126
- ▶ 11.30.10: EarthStorm school visit, Choteau, Okla. For information, call Andrea Melvin at 405-325-2652
- ▶ 11.25.10 and 11.26.10: Mesonet offices will be closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

▶ 12.24.10 to 12.31.10: Mesonet offices will be closed for the holidays

CONTACTS

Accessing recent (within the past 7 days) Mesonet data

Contact: Mesonet Operator

Instrumentation, telecommunications, or other technical specifications

Contact: Chris Fiebrich

Mesonet agricultural data and products

Contact: Al Sutherland

Mesonet meteorological data **Contact: OCS Data Requests**

K-12 educational outreach Contact: Andrea Melvin

OK-First

Contact: Nicole Giuliano

OK-FIRE

Contact: J.D. Carlson

Not sure?

Contact: 405-325-2541 or Chris Fiebrich.

FORECAST FOR NOVEMBER Click here to view the original maps from the Climate Prediction Center.

