



## Niagara - June 2011:

The month of June was characterized by warmer and drier conditions; a drastic change following an extremely wet spring. Accumulated growing degree days surpassed normal values (Fig 1), as average temperatures changed from near normal in April and May to above normal in June. In fact, both daytime and nighttime June temperatures were above normal (Fig 2-5). Average daily maximum temperatures were approximately 1.5°C above normal, while average daily minimum temperatures were nearly 1°C above normal. This resulted in a steady increase in growing degree days throughout the month. Accumulated growing degree days also continue to surpass totals in comparison to the same point in time during the 2009 growing season.

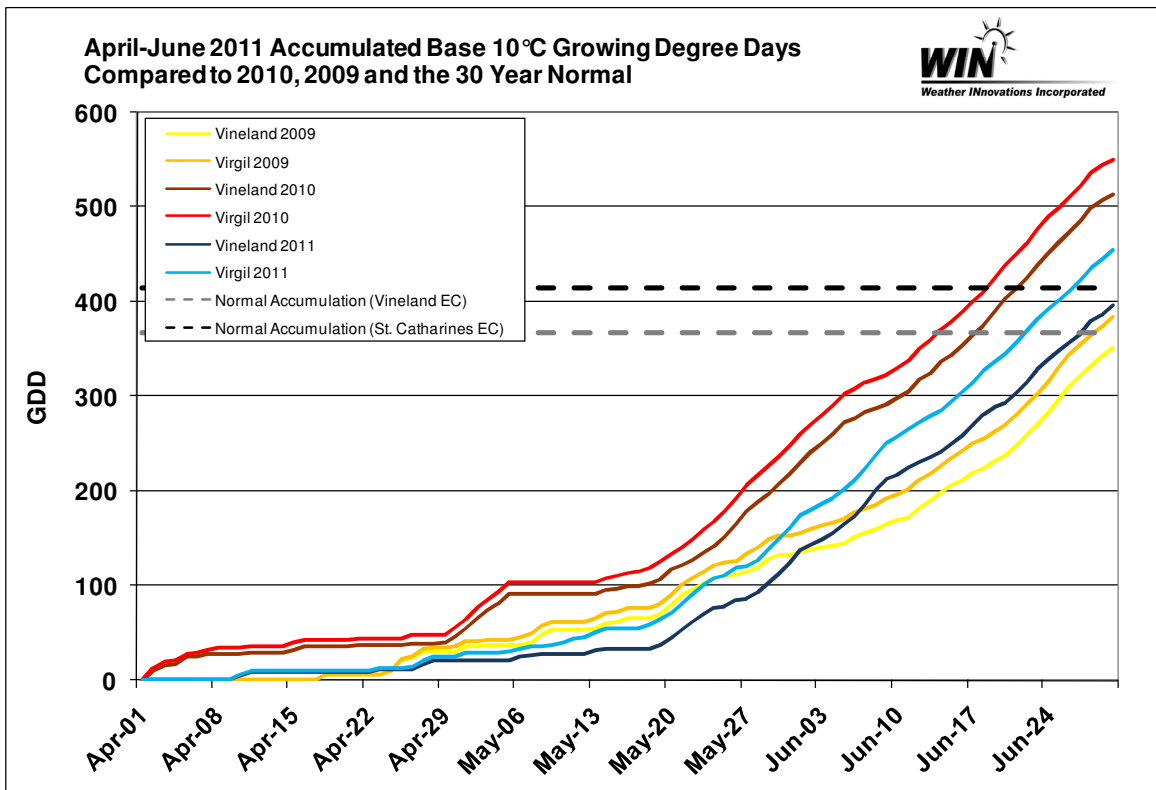


Figure 1: Growing Degree Days

Significantly wet conditions throughout April and May changed to dry conditions throughout June. Rainfall totals for the month were below normal (Fig 6 and 7). All stations received between 57% and 91% of normal rainfall for the month. The number of days with rain was also below normal for the month. The below normal precipitation combined with above normal temperatures is quickly depleting soil moisture at the 10-30cm soil depths. The extremely wet spring is quickly fading from memory and should be replaced by thoughts of potential irrigation requirements for grape and tender fruit crops as the beginning of July continues to be hot and dry.

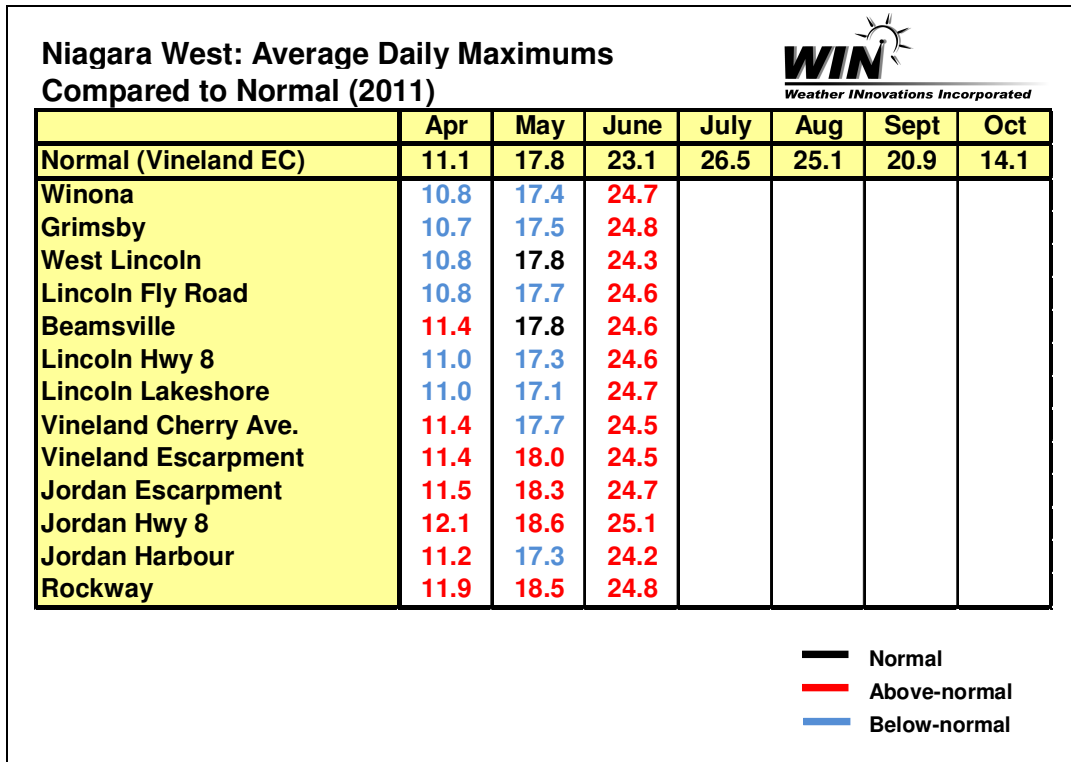


Figure 2: Niagara West – Maximum Temperatures

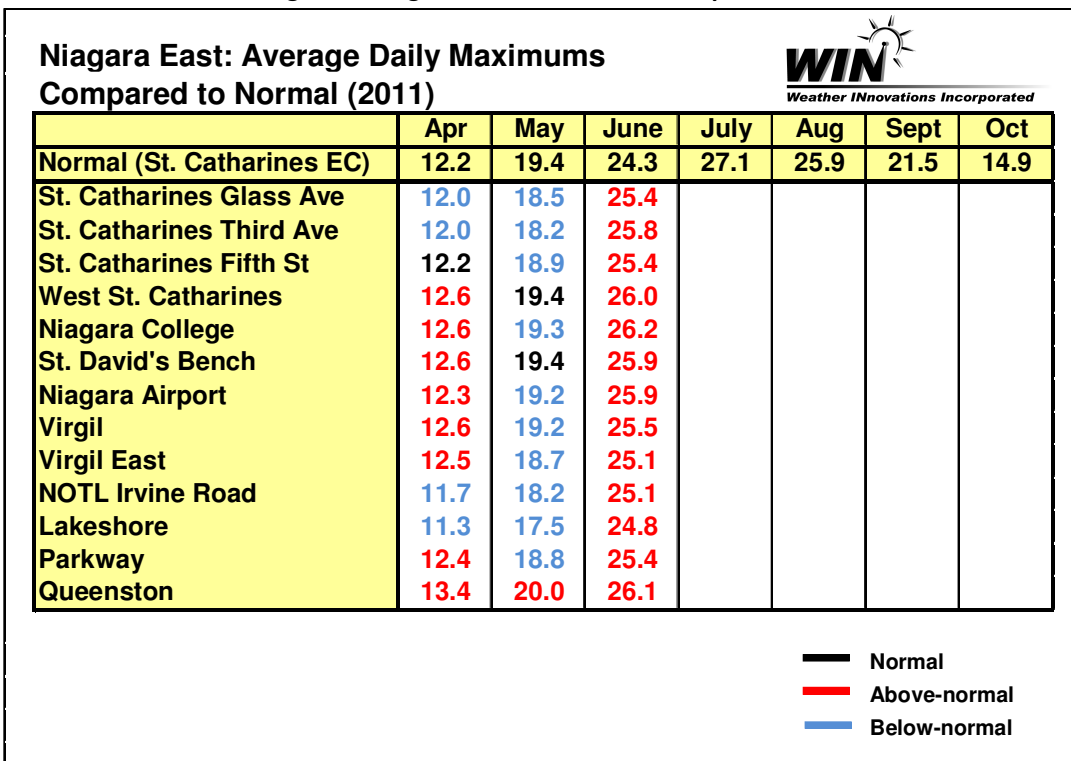


Figure 3: Niagara East - Maximum Temperatures

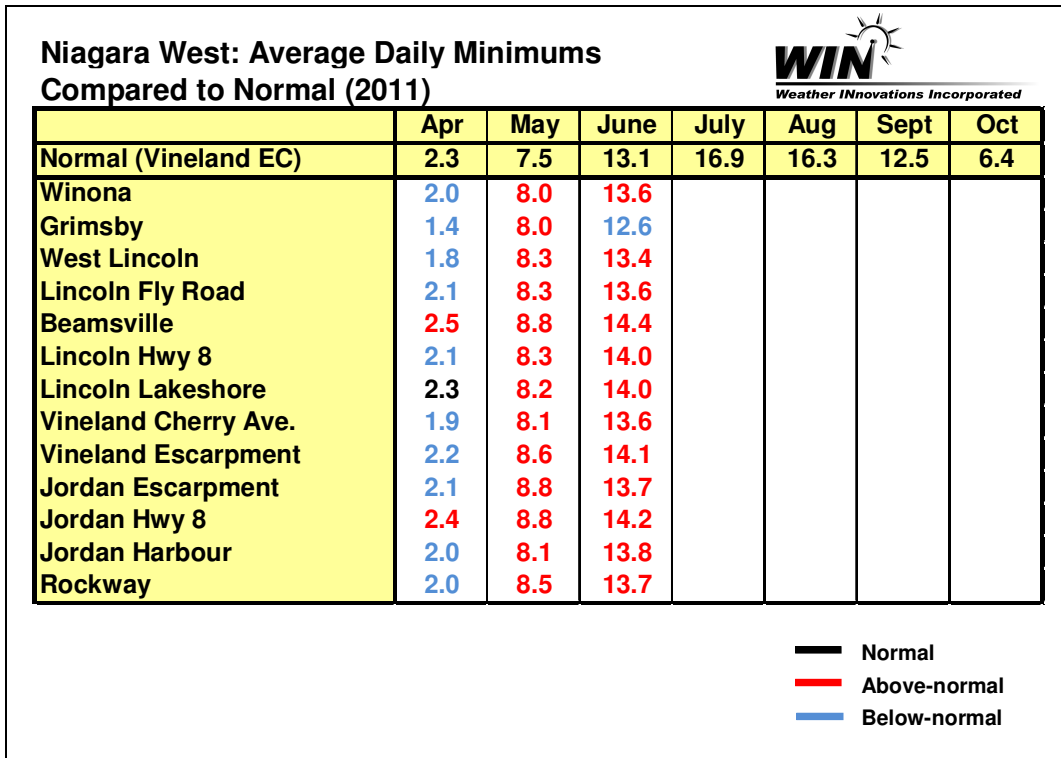


Figure 4: Niagara West - Minimum Temperatures

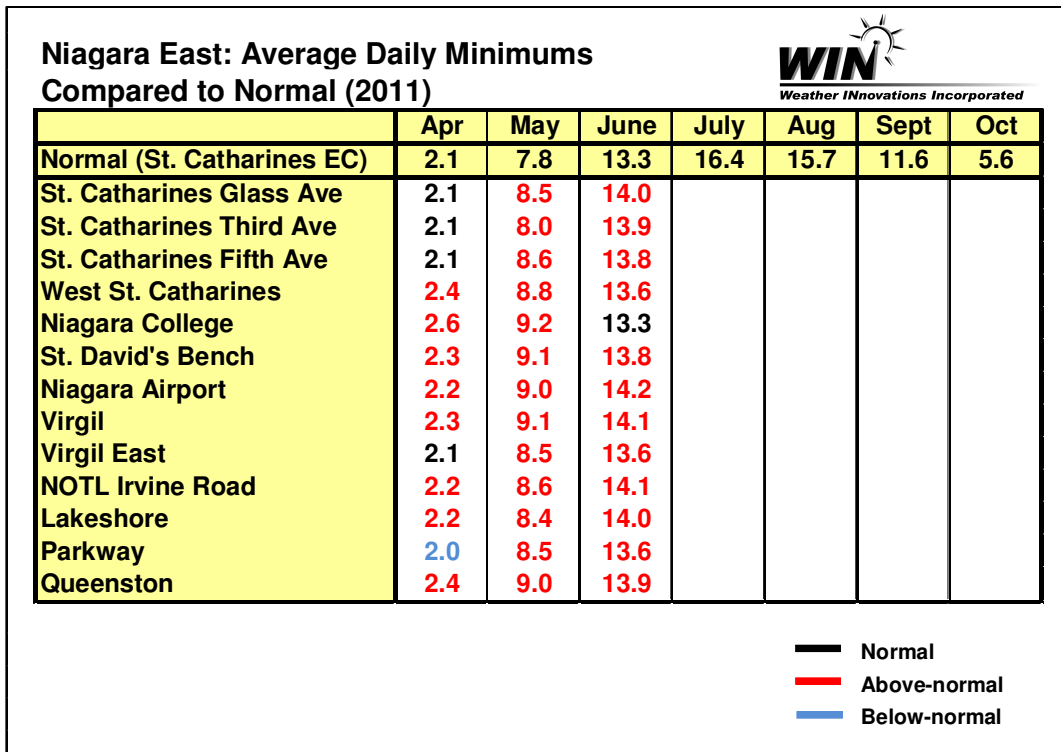


Figure 5: Niagara East - Minimum Temperatures

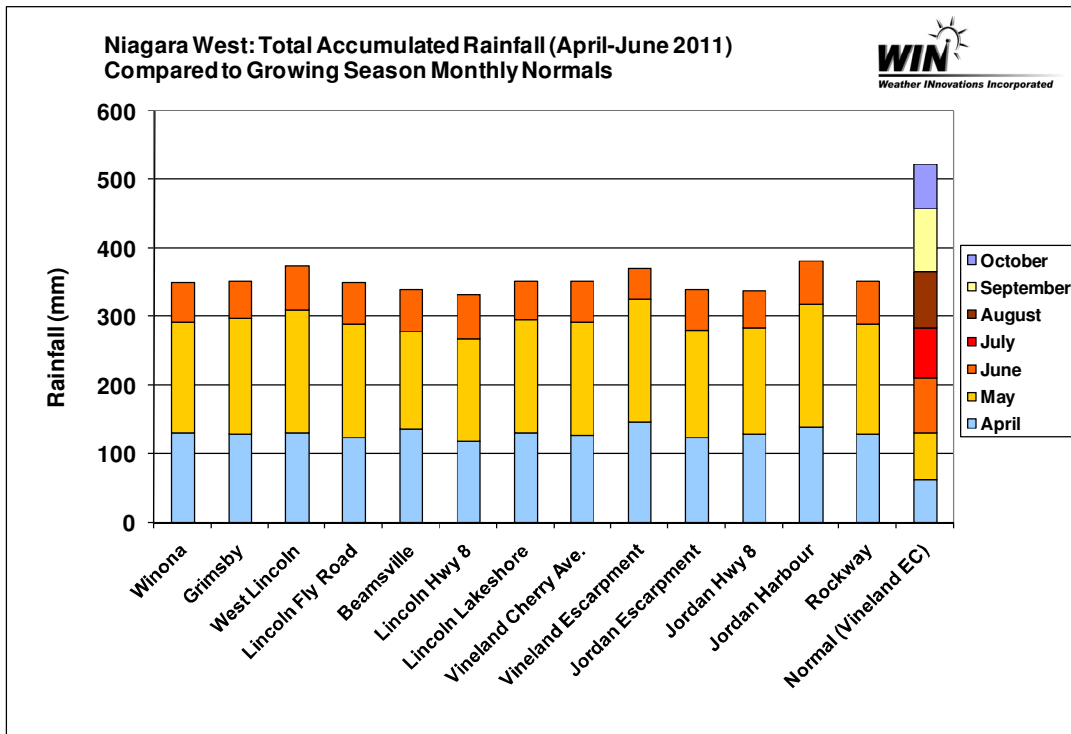


Figure 6: Niagara West – Monthly Rainfall

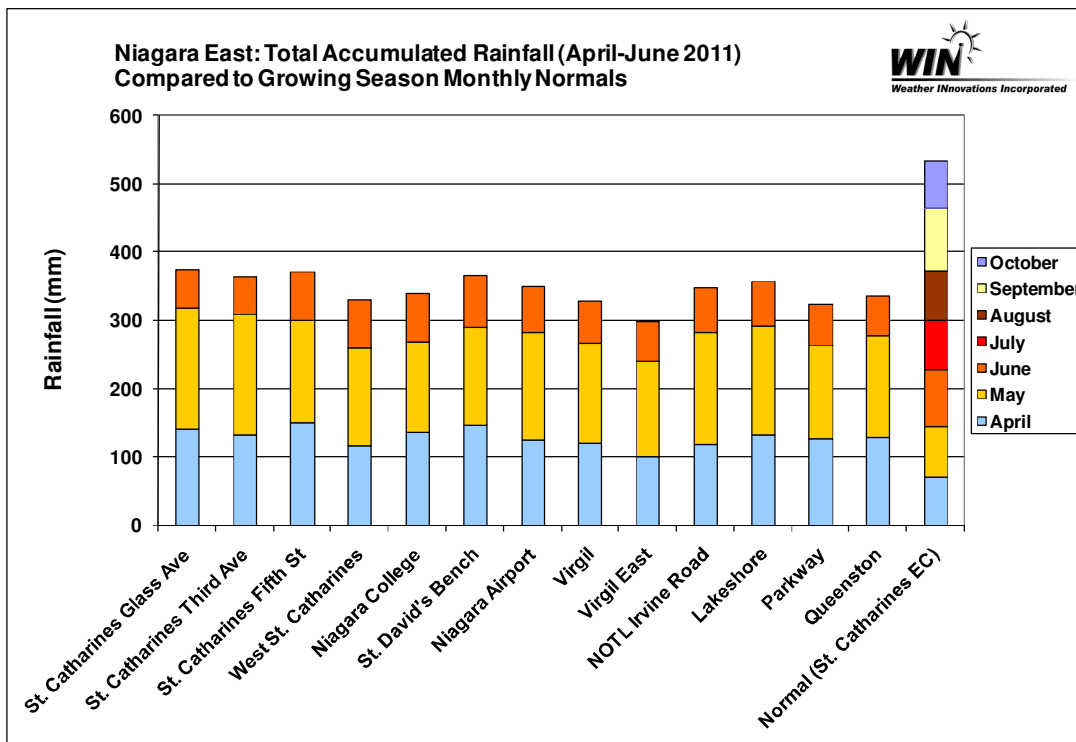


Figure 7: Niagara East – Monthly Rainfall