



May 2012:

Significantly above-normal temperatures marked the month. Daytime highs were approximately 4°C above normal, while overnight lows were approximately 2°C above normal. As of the end of May, accumulated growing degree days were well above 2011 and the 30-year normal, but not quite as high as the same point in time during the 2010 growing season, which was a great year for heat accumulation.

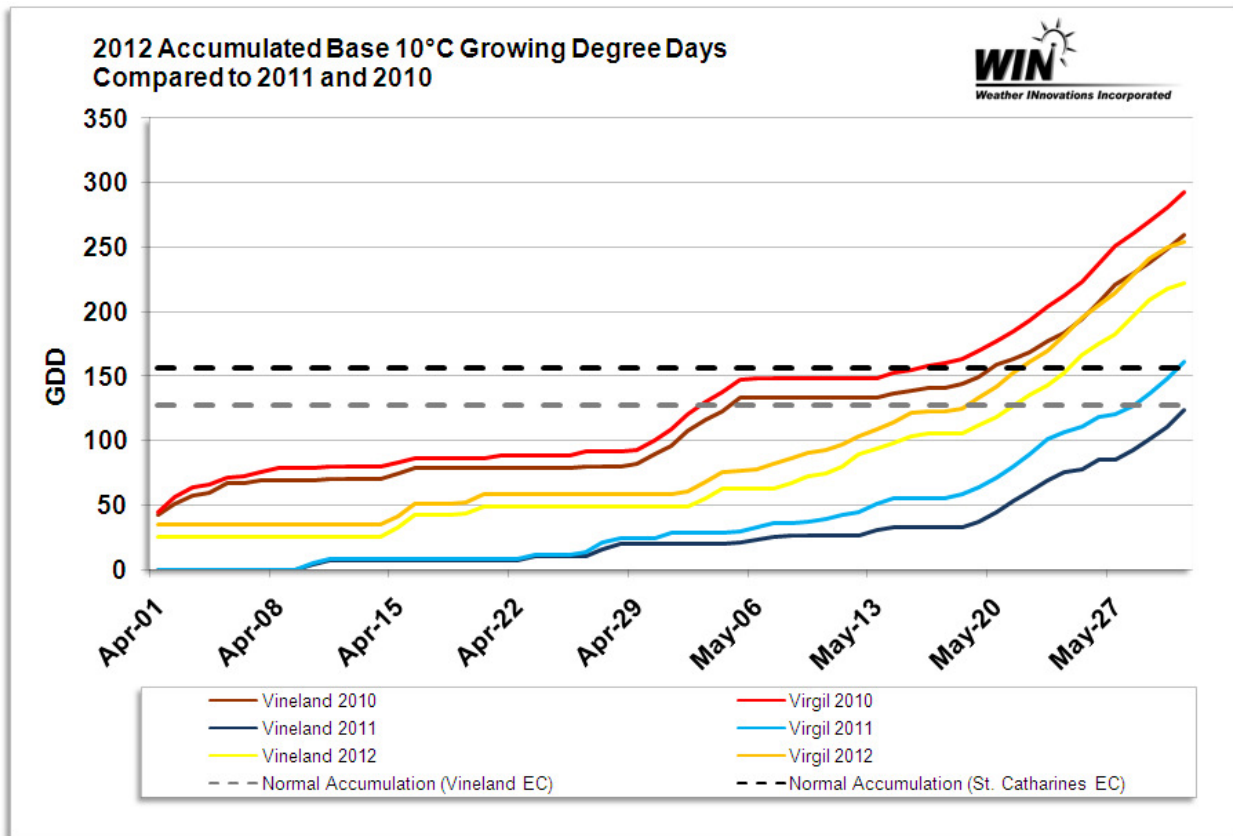


Figure 1: Growing Degree Days

The month of May brought significantly dry conditions throughout the Niagara region. All of the rainfall occurred within the first 9 days of the month, with most stations receiving close to one inch, apart from the southern half of Niagara-on-the-Lake which received closer to two inches. The remainder of the month saw absolutely no rainfall. The monthly accumulation ranged between 30 and 60% of normal as a result. A noteworthy rainfall event occurred on the first day of June, improving the 0-30cm-depth soil moisture conditions.

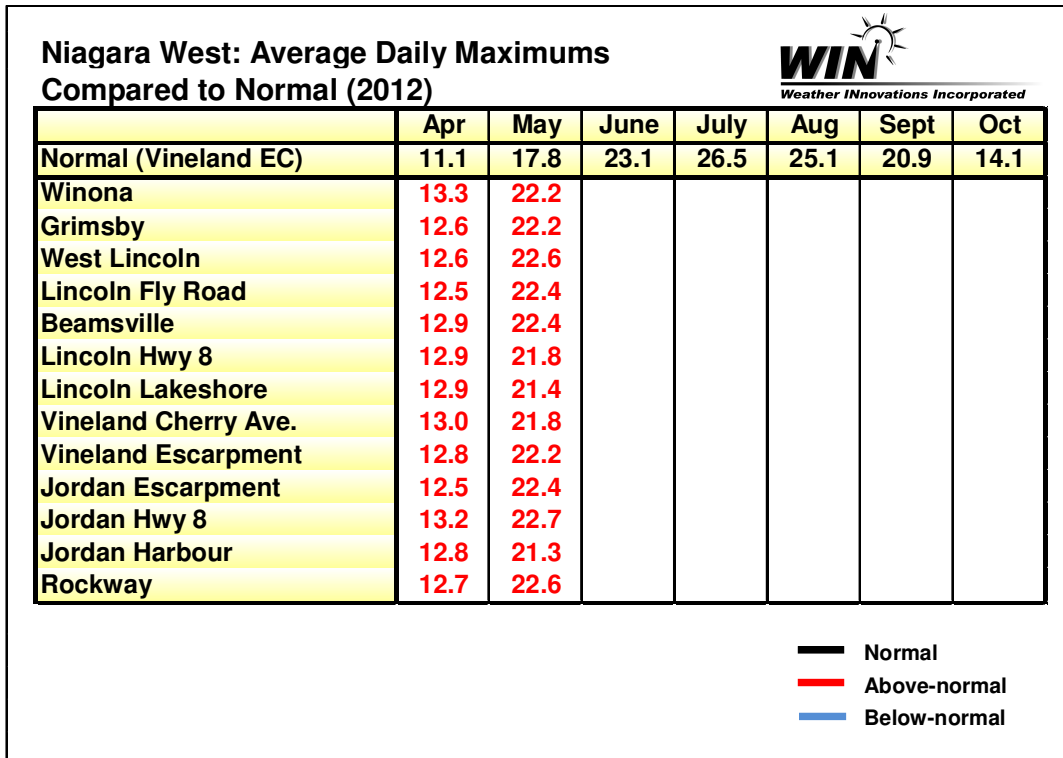


Figure 2: Niagara West – Daily Maximums

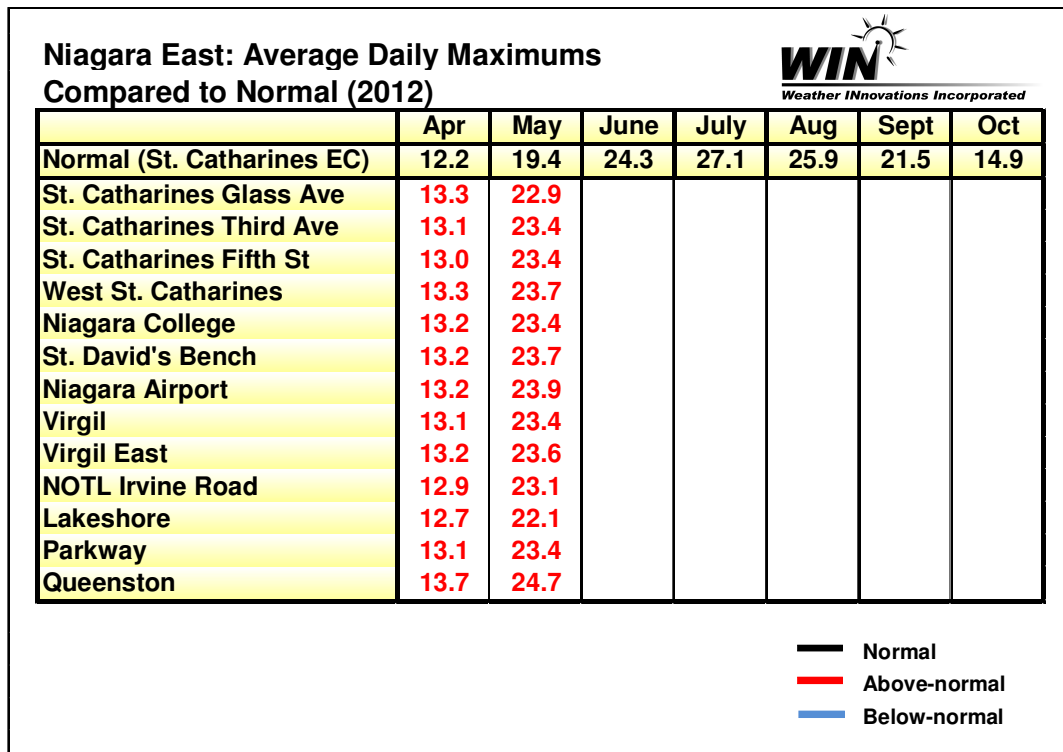


Figure 3: Niagara East – Daily Maximums

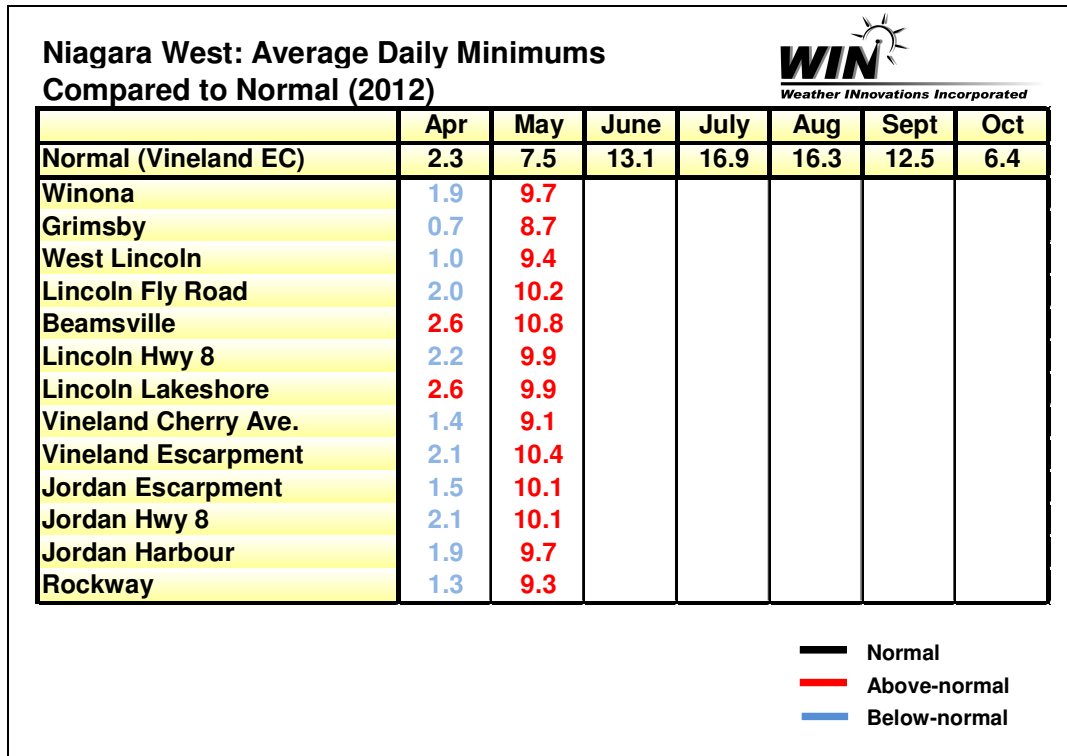


Figure 4: Niagara West – Daily Minimums

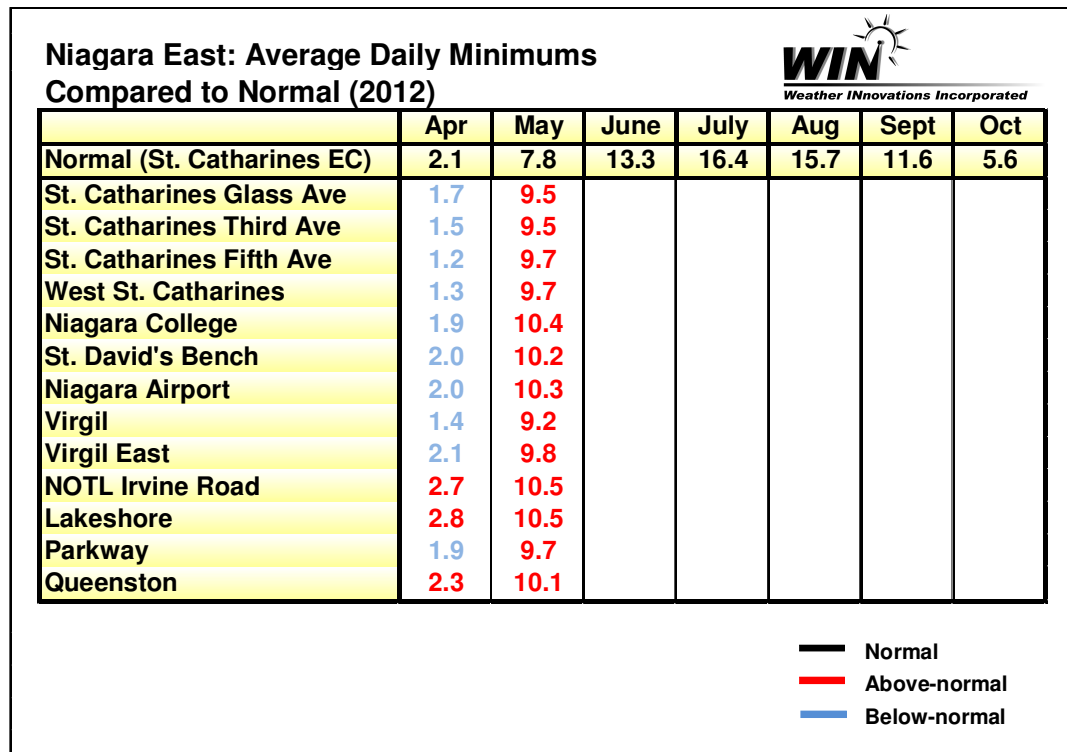


Figure 5: Niagara East – Daily Minimums

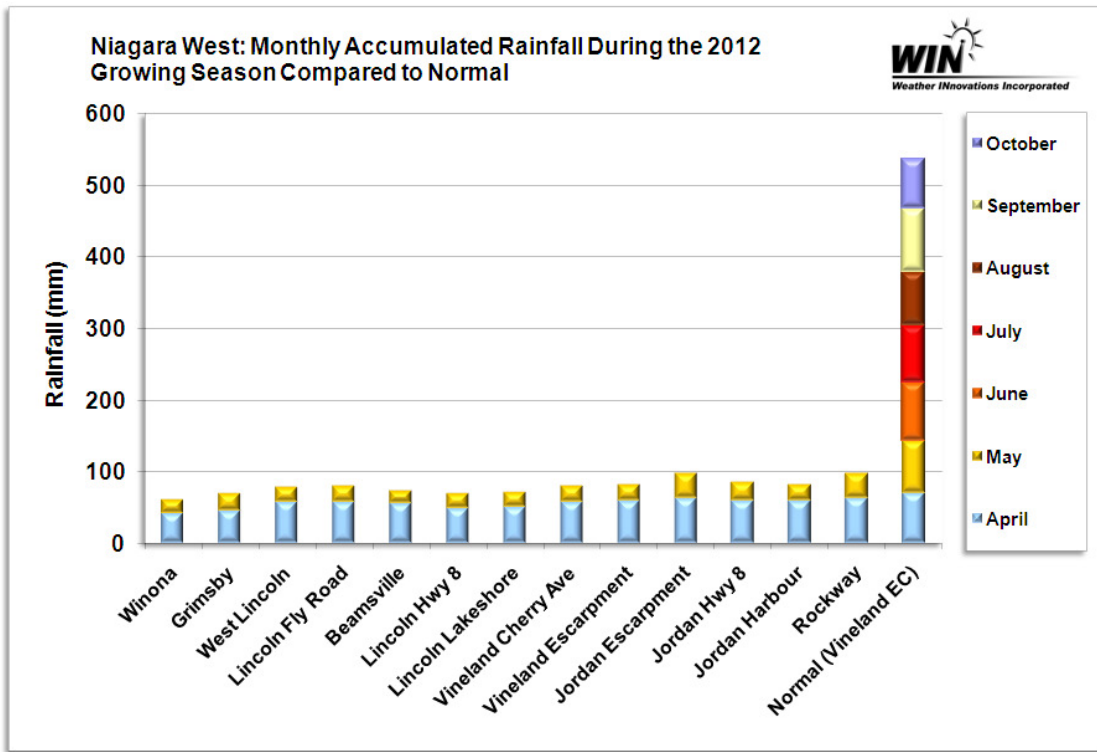


Figure 6: Niagara West - Rainfall

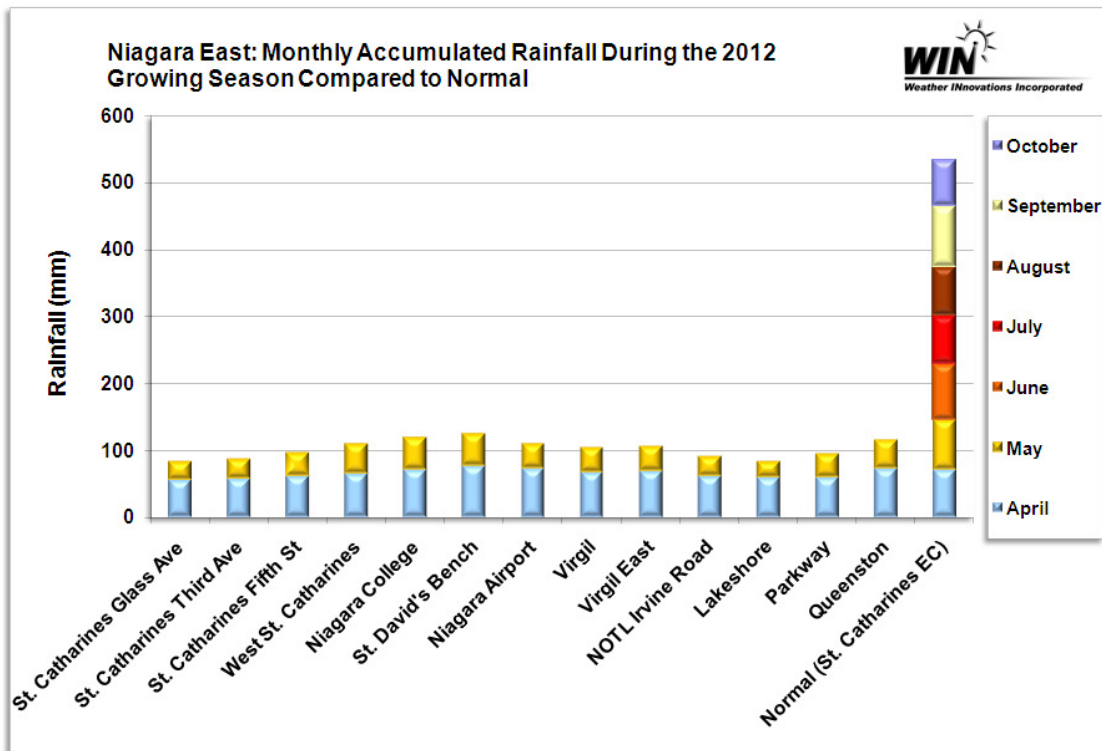


Figure 7: Niagara East - Rainfall