

Importance of Accurate, Consistent Snowfall Measurement



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Snow Matters!





Blizzard of 1949, snow drift on the porch of a house at Keota, Colorado



Seasonal Snowfall for Sault Ste. Marie, MI

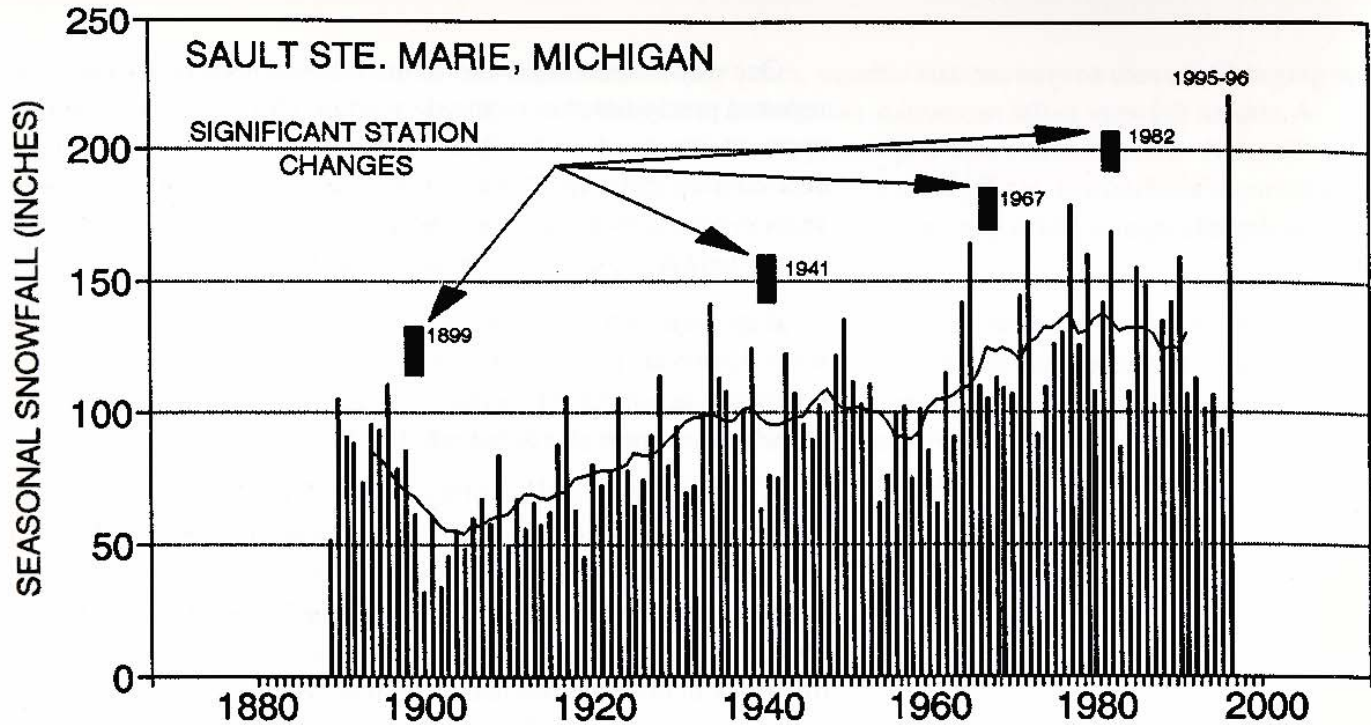


figure 40

Historic seasonal snowfall totals at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. A combination of station moves, changes in exposure, and changes in observational procedures (some of which have not been documented) are superimposed on what appears to be a very significant longterm increase in snowfall. Longterm snowfall time series for other parts of the country are plagued by similar problems. Improving the consistency in observations would make it easier to confidently identify important climate variations and trends.



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Barbecue Grill



1. Webber Grill, Tuesday, 9 am

Photos by M. J. Brodzik
BO57, Nederland 6.1 E

March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Barbecue Grill



2. Grill on Tuesday 5:30 pm

March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Barbecue Grill



3. Grill at 6:30 pm on Tuesday



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Barbecue Grill



4. There used to be a Webber Grill here, Wednesday, 6:25 am



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence The Barbecue Grill



5. Webber Grill Wednesday Noon



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence The Barbecue Grill



6. Grill on Thursday at 7:15 am
The snow has finally stopped



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Fence



1. Fence across the South Meadow, Tuesday 9am
Photos by M. J. Brodzik
BO57, Nederland 6.1 E



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Fence



2. South Meadow at 5:30 pm on Tuesday



March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Fence



3. South meadow on Wednesday

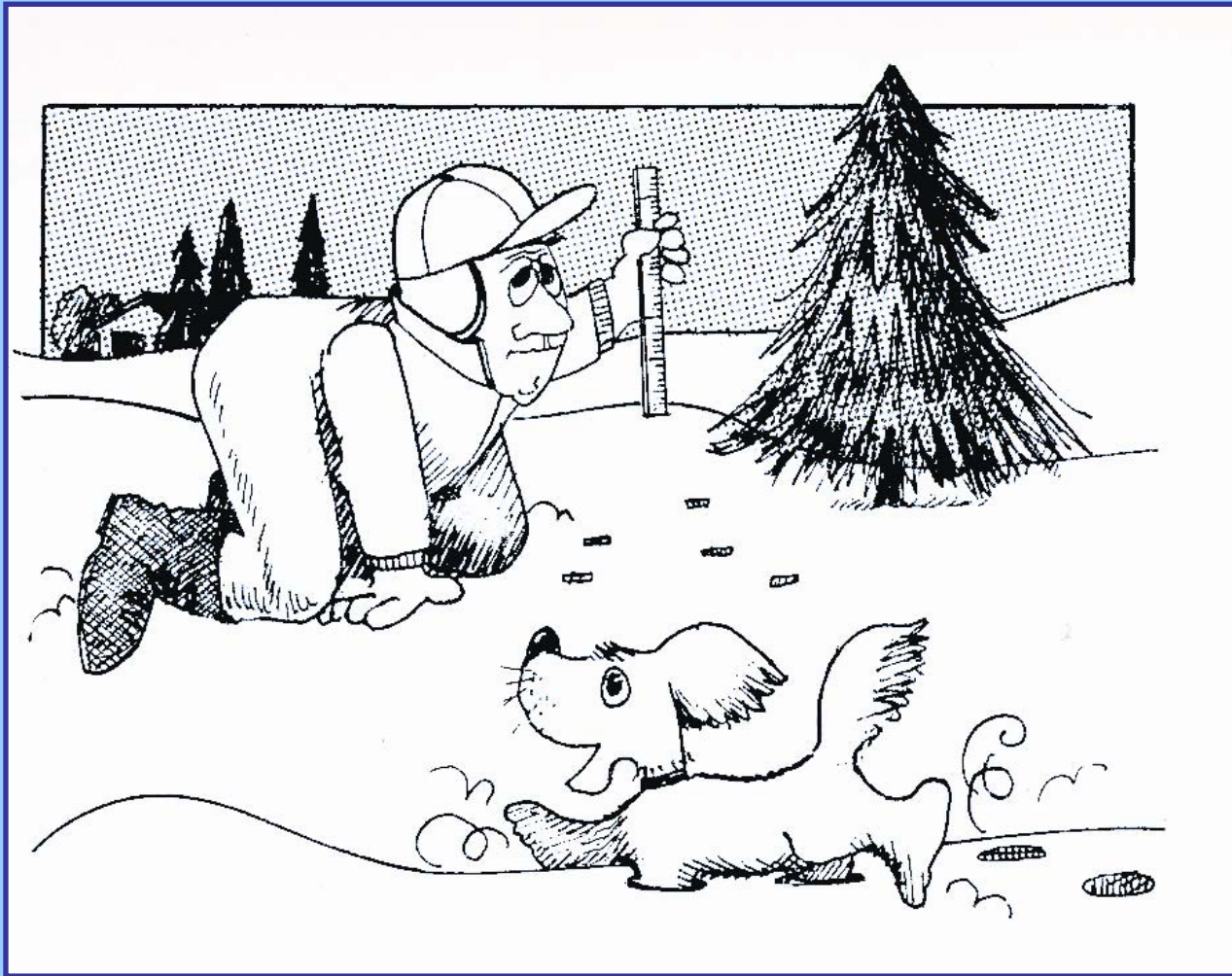


March 17-19, 2003 Storm Sequence

The Fence



4. Fence across South Meadow, Thursday 6:15 am



“He used to love snow as much as me – and then he became a weather observer.”

Measuring Snow Is Harder Than It Seems



And now for
something
completely
different ...



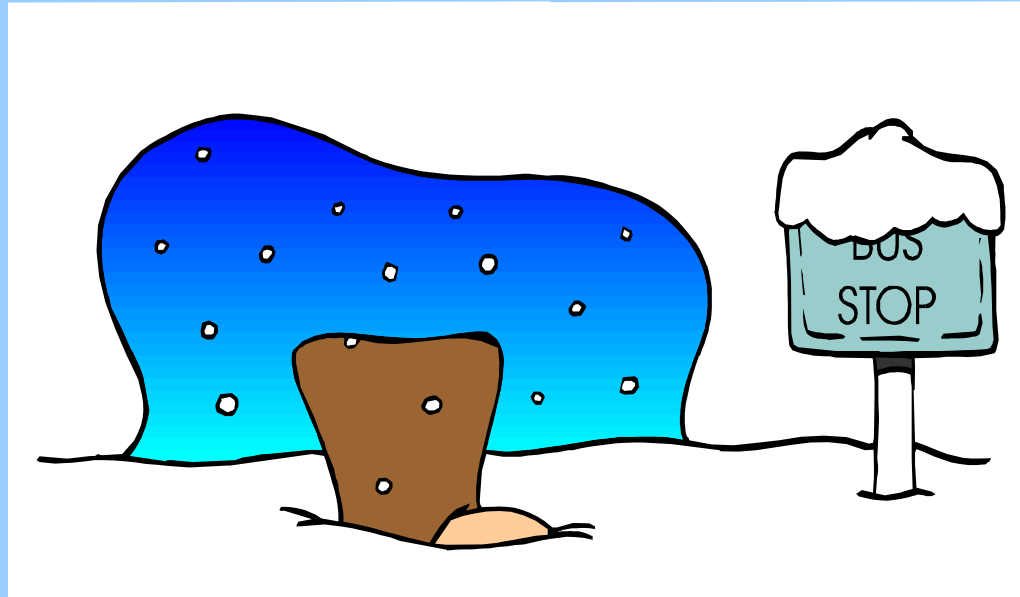


There is no perfect way to
measure snow....





What matters most for climatic applications and historical documentation is that we all do it the same way.



The Snow Booklet



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<http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu/snowbooklet.php>