

FIVEMILE

GRAYSVILLE · CARDIFF · BROOKSIDE

THE JANUARY 2026 EDITION

MONTHLY

January ran a little cooler than usual and came in wet, and Five Mile Creek rose over the high water line twice.

This edition was put together on September 15, 2026, after the month was over, from the records as they stood. Its calls were worked out by the same rule as every other month, from what was on file before each month began.

JANUARY ALONG THE CREEK

WEATHER

Our station

HOTTEST **67° on Jan 8**

COLDEST **12° on Jan 27**

RAIN **10.62 in**

NIGHTS AT FREEZING **20**

The average of the highs and lows came to 42 degrees, 2.6 degrees cooler than normal for January.

Our station measured 10.62 inches of rain, against a normal of 5.03 at the Birmingham airport. The wettest day was January 9, with 1.90 inches.

THE CREEK

Five Mile Creek at Republic

HIGHEST **5.76 ft on Jan 25**

LOWEST **1.07 ft on Jan 1**

DAYS AT HIGH WATER **2**

It reached the high water line, 3.5 feet at Republic, on two days, in two separate rises.

Its highest reading, 5.76 feet on January 25, was lower than the 6.14 feet the creek reaches in a typical January since 2008.

The high water line is the one the masthead uses. It is not a flood stage, because this gauge does not have one.

HOW THE CALLS DID

THE CALLS FOR JANUARY

Temperature

NOAA	MISSED
FIVEMILE	NO CALL

Set against the same month in 1991 to 2020 at the Birmingham airport, January finished in the middle third for temperature and the wet third for rain.

NOAA's outlook, issued December 31, 2025, leaned slightly toward a warmer than normal month. That missed.

FIVEMILE made no call for January, because the record had no clear lean after a middle December.

Since August 2014, NOAA's temperature outlook for these three towns has been right 60 times and missed 32 times, with no lean 44 times. FIVEMILE has not made a call yet since January 2026. A call made by guessing would be right about one time in three.

FEBRUARY AHEAD

THE OUTLOOK

February

NOAA	40% cooler
FIVEMILE	No call

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center gives these three towns a 40 percent chance of a cooler than normal February, and a slight lean toward a drier than normal one.

FIVEMILE has no call for February. After a middle January, the record has no clear lean.

FIVEMILE does not call rain. In the airport record a wet month is followed by a wet one no more often than chance would have it.

NORMAL FEBRUARY

Birmingham airport

DAYLIGHT ON THE 1ST

10 h 35 m

ON THE 28TH

11 h 26 m

The days gain 51 minutes of daylight over February, from 10 hours and 35 minutes on the 1st to 11 hours and 26 minutes on the 28th.

THE OLD SAYING

Candlemas

“If Candlemas day be fair and bright, winter will have another flight. If on Candlemas day it be shower and rain, winter is gone and will not come again.”

Candlemas is February 2, an old church feast day that falls about halfway between the first day of winter and the first day of spring.

The airport record can test it. Fair means no measurable rain fell at the airport on February 2, because the record does not say whether the sun was out. Another flight of winter means the six weeks after, February 3 through March 16, ran colder than normal. The saying holds when a fair Candlemas is followed by a cold six weeks, or a wet one by a mild six weeks. In the 95 years on the record, it held in 43.

National Geographic ↗ (<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/candlemas-jesus-mary-christianity/>)

DATES IN FEBRUARY

FEB

02

CIVIC

BROOKSIDE

Brookside Town Council meeting

Brookside's council meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:00 PM at Brookside Town Hall. When that Monday falls on a holiday the meeting moves to the second Monday.

FEB

04

CIVIC

Jefferson County tornado siren test

Jefferson County tests its outdoor warning sirens on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM. No action needed, it is a scheduled test.

FEB
05

CIVIC GRAYSVILLE

Graysville City Council meeting
Graysville's council meets twice a month, on the first and third Thursday, at 6:00 PM at Graysville City Hall.

FEB
10

CIVIC CARDIFF

Cardiff City Council meeting
Cardiff City Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

FEB
19

CIVIC GRAYSVILLE

Graysville City Council meeting
Graysville's council meets twice a month, on the first and third Thursday, at 6:00 PM at Graysville City Hall.

FEB
20

CIVIC

Severe weather sales tax holiday
Alabama takes its sales tax off batteries, tarps, flashlights, weather radios, and generators for one weekend, and most of Jefferson County takes the local share off too. It runs the last full weekend of February.
[Alabama Department of Revenue \(https://www.revenue.alabama.gov/sales-use/sales-tax-holidays/\)](https://www.revenue.alabama.gov/sales-use/sales-tax-holidays/)

WHERE THIS COMES FROM

The month's weather is the **FIVEMILE** weather station. Normals, ranks, records and the thirds a month is scored in are the official National Weather Service record kept at the Birmingham airport since 1930, set against 1991 to 2020. The creek is the [USGS gauge on Fivemile Creek near Republic \(https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/02457595/\)](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/02457595/). The outlook is the monthly outlook from [NOAA's Climate Prediction Center \(https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/\)](https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/), read at the middle of the three towns. The stories are the ones the news page ran, the sightings are iNaturalist's research grade records, and the dates are the calendar's. FIVEMILE's call is a rule written down in advance: it looks at how the month just gone finished and at what followed every earlier year that started the same way. Every sentence here was written ahead of time and filled in from those records, and no edition is changed after it runs.