

FIVEMILE

GRAYSVILLE · CARDIFF · BROOKSIDE

THE FEBRUARY 2026 EDITION

MONTHLY

February ran a little warmer than usual and came in close to normal on rain, and Five Mile Creek rose over the high water line once.

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.

FEBRUARY ALONG THE CREEK

WEATHER

Our station

HOTTEST **82° on Feb 19**

COLDEST **14° on Feb 1**

RAIN **4.52 in**

NIGHTS AT FREEZING **12**

The average of the highs and lows came to 50.5 degrees, 1.7 degrees warmer than normal for February.

Our station measured 4.52 inches of rain, against a normal of 4.95 at the Birmingham airport. The wettest day was February 26, with 2.83 inches.

THE CREEK

Five Mile Creek at Republic

HIGHEST **6.68 ft on Feb 27**

LOWEST **1.20 ft on Feb 23**

DAYS AT HIGH WATER **2**

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

Its highest reading, 6.68 feet on February 27, was about the same as the 6.82 feet the creek reaches in a typical February 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 FEBRUARY

Temperature

NOAA	MISSED
FIVEMILE	NO CALL

Set against the same month in 1991 to 2020 at the Birmingham airport, February finished in the warm third for temperature and the dry third for rain.

NOAA's outlook, issued January 31, gave a 40 percent chance of a cooler than normal month. That missed.

On rain it leaned slightly toward a drier than normal month, and that was right too.

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

Since August 2014, NOAA's temperature outlook for these three towns has been right 60 times and missed 33 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.

MARCH AHEAD

THE OUTLOOK

March

NOAA	70% warmer
FIVEMILE	No call

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center gives these three towns a 70 percent chance of a warmer than normal March, and no lean either way on rain.

FIVEMILE has no call for March. After a warm February, 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 MARCH

Birmingham airport

NORMAL HIGH	63° to 71°
NORMAL LOW	42° to 48°
NORMAL RAIN	5.66 in
RECORD HIGH	89° in 1982
RECORD LOW	2° in 1993

Normal highs at the Birmingham airport rise from 63 to 71 degrees over March, and normal rain for the month is 5.66 inches.

It froze at least once in March in 90 of the 96 years on the airport record, and the latest freeze on record in the month came on March 31, 1950.

THE SUN

March

DAYLIGHT ON THE 1ST	11 h 28 m
ON THE 31ST	12 h 31 m
SPRING EQUINOX	Mar 20

The days gain 1 hour and 3 minutes of daylight over March, from 11 hours and 28 minutes on the 1st to 12 hours and 31 minutes on the 31st.

The spring equinox comes on March 20.

THE OLD SAYING

In like a lion

“If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.”

A lion is a rough start to the month and a lamb is a gentle end, and the saying runs the other way too.

The airport record can test it. A rough start is a quarter inch of rain or more, or a freeze, on any of March 1 to 3. A gentle end is no rain and no freeze on all of March 29 to 31. The saying holds when a rough start ends gently or a gentle start ends rough. In the 96 years on the record, it held in 32.

Farmers' Almanac ↗ (<https://www.farmersalmanac.com/the-truth-behind-in-like-a-lion-out-like-a-lamb>)

DATES IN MARCH

MAR
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.

MAR
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.

MAR
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.

MAR
10

CIVIC

CARDIFF

Cardiff City Council meeting

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

MAR
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.

MAR

20

SKY

Spring Equinox

Day and night of equal length; the astronomical start of spring.

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.