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Hoopeston, area moves from 5B to 6A in newly updated USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

Hoopeston is moving up, at least when it comes to its place on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's new Plant Hardiness Zone Map (PHZM).

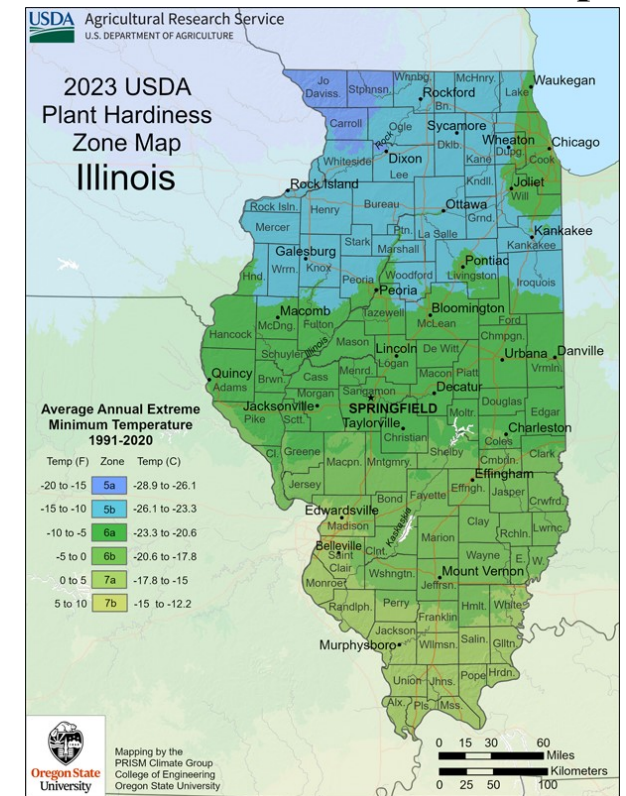
Formerly in 5B, Hoopeston and the surrounding area has been moved to 6A, according to the new map, which was released last month. This is the first update to the map has been updated since 2012.

USDA's Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. The new map - jointly developed by USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Oregon State University's (OSU) PRISM Climate Group - is more accurate and contains greater

detail than prior versions.

The map is available online at planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/. In addition to the map updates, the PHZM website was expanded in 2023 to include a "Tips for Growers" section, which provides information about USDA ARS research programs of interest to gardeners and others who grow and breed plants.

The 2023 map is based on 30-year averages of the lowest annual winter temperatures at specific locations, is divided into 10-degree Fahrenheit zones and further divided into 5-degree Fahrenheit half-zones. Like the 2012 map, the 2023 web version offers a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based interactive format and is specifically designed to be user-friendly. Notably, the



Chicago men in county jail after Rossville, Danville chase

A pursuit that began in Rossville ended with two Chicago men in the Vermilion County Jail.

According to reports, at about 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Rossville police pursued a vehicle on Rt. 1. Danville police joined in at that city's northern border, placing tire-deflation devices (stop sticks), which failed to stop the car.

The car continued to the city's west side, where, near Harrison Park, two people ran from the vehicle. The two were apprehended by Danville police and Vermilion County Sheriff's deputies. Officers reported recovering two firearms.

Malik E. Brown, 25, and David Cox, 23, were arrested on preliminary charges of possession of a stolen vehicle, aggravated fleeing and eluding, and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon.

Officials are asking for help from the public regarding the incident. Anyone with information is asked to call Danville Police Department at (217) 431-2250, or, to remain anonymous, Vermilion County Crime Stoppers, (217) 446-8477.

2023 map delivers to users several new, significant features and advances. The 2023 map incorporates data from 13,412 weather stations compared to the 7,983 that were used for the 2012 map.

The new map's rendering for Alaska is now at a much more detailed resolution (down from a 6 1/4 -square-mile area of detail to a 1/4 square mile). "These updates reflect our ongoing commitment to ensuring the Plant Hardiness Zone Map remains a premier source of information that gardeners, growers and researchers alike can use, wheth-

See MAP on other side

Sports

Fresh/Soph basketball

Hoopeston Area freshmen/sophomores lost to guests Westville Thursday, 41-17.

Jauan Lewis had two points and six steals for the night. Felix Cantu and Athan Linares each had three

From the Blotter

Hoopeston Police were called at 11:22 a.m. October 28 to Dollar General, 415 S. Dixie Hwy, where a 25-year-old woman reported someone committed disorderly conduct. Gary Hodge, 81, of Wellington, was cited for the crime and mailed a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Lunch Menus

Maple/John Greer

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, broccoli, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Taco, chips & salsa, salad, baby carrots, peaches, milk

WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Biscuit & gravy, sausage links, hash browns, baby carrots, mandarin orange, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza rolls, salad, mixed fruit, Veggy Juice, milk

Hoopeston Area Middle School

MONDAY: Orange chicken, rice, veggies, corn, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, pineapple, milk

WEDNESDAY: Quesadilla, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Cheeseburger, baked beans, veggies, peaches, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area High School

MONDAY: Orange chicken or hot ham & cheese, rice, corn, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

TUESDAY: Country fried steak or calzone, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad bar, pineapple, milk, juice

WEDNESDAY: Quesadilla or pork BBQ, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad bar, pears, milk, juice

THURSDAY: Hotdog or cheeseburger, baked beans, salad bar, peaches, milk, juice

FRIDAY: Pizza or chicken strips, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk, juice

points. Parker Watson, Dallas Sheppard and Nick Brown each contributed two.

Varsity Basketball

Owen Root contributed 23 points to the Cornjerkers' 47-40 win over Paxton-Buckley Loda Friday. The senior was at 50% for three-pointers, connecting four of eight attempts.

Kendrick Sigerill snagged 10 rebounds and scored nine points towards the victory.

Rounding out scoring were Wyatt Eisenmann with seven points and five rebounds, Trenton Montez with five points and four rebs; Ethan Steiner with two

Map continued from other side

er they're located in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico," said ARS Administrator Dr. Simon Liu.

Approximately 80 million American gardeners and growers represent the most frequent users of the USDA PHZM. However, they're not the only ones with a need for this hardiness information. For example, the USDA Risk Management Agency refers to the map's plant hardiness zone designations to set certain crop insurance standards. Additionally, scientists incorporate the plant hardiness zones as a data layer in many research models, such as those modeling the spread of exotic weeds and insects.

Plant hardiness zone designations represent what's known as the "average annual extreme minimum temperature" at a given location during a particular time period (30 years, in this instance). The designations do not reflect the coldest it has ever been or ever will be at a specific location, but simply the average lowest winter temperature for the location over a specified time. Low temperature during the winter is a crucial factor in the survival of plants at specific locations.

As with the 2012 map, the new version has 13 zones across the United States and its territories. Each zone is broken into half zones, designated as "A" and "B." For example, zone 7 is divided into 7a and 7b half zones. When compared to the 2012 map, the 2023 version reveals that about half of the country shifted to the next warmer half zone, and the other half of the country remained in the same half zone. That shift to the next warmer half zone means those areas warmed somewhere in the range of 0-5 degrees Fahrenheit; however, some locations experienced warming in the range of 0-5 degrees Fahrenheit without moving to another half zone.

points and two rebounds and Mason Rush one point and five grabs.

In the JV game, Hoopeston Area won, 42-26. Brayden Walder led scoring with 15 points. Nick Cardenas had 10 and Zach Huchel contributed seven.

The team is at 5-3 overall and 0-0 in the Vermilion Valley Conference.

The Cornjerkers were on the road Saturday to face Salt Fork, then home to host Westville Tuesday. Starting Thursday and going into next week, the team will participate in the annual Watseka Holiday Tourney.

These national differences in zonal boundaries are mostly a result of incorporating temperature data from a more recent time period. The 2023 map includes data measured at weather stations from 1991 to 2020. Notably, the 2023 map for Alaska is "warmer" than the 2012 version. That's mainly because the new map uses more data representing the state's mountain regions where, during winter, warm air overlies cold air that settles into low-elevation valleys, creating warmer temperatures.

The annual extreme minimum temperature represents the coldest night of the year, which can be highly variable from year to year, depending on local weather patterns. Some changes in zonal boundaries are also the result of using increasingly sophisticated mapping methods and the inclusion of data from more weather stations.

Temperature updates to plant hardiness zones are not necessarily reflective of global climate change because of the highly variable nature of the extreme minimum temperature of the year, as well as the use of increasingly sophisticated mapping methods and the inclusion of data from more weather stations.

Consequently, map developers involved in the project cautioned against attributing temperature updates made to some zones as reliable and accurate indicators of global climate change (which is usually based on trends in overall average temperatures recorded over long time periods).

Weather

Sunny today. High 40. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 27. Tomorrow, sunny. High 42, low 24.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Girls basketball

The Lady Cornjerkers upset Wilmington, the #1 seed in the Iroquois West Holiday Hoops Tournament.

Hoopeston Area won, 49-28, led by Claire Dixon with 14 points, Kaitlynn Lange with 12 and Brylie Cox with 11 points.

The girls dropped a game, losing to Iroquois West, 49-39. Dixon again led, with 15 points, followed by Cox with 11 and Maddie Barnes with 10.

The tournament, held at Gilman and Onarga, continues Monday.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Public Library needs dependable part-time custodian, approx. 10-15 hrs./week, daily Mon.-Fri. Early mornings or after 6 p.m. Tasks include cleaning public and staff restrooms, mopping and/or vacuuming public and staff areas, emptying trash, cleaning glass doors/windows and other duties as needed. Must have reliable transportation, be able to work independently, lift up to 40 lbs. and manage stairs. References required. Applications available at the library, 110 N. Fourth St.

Kitchen help needed at Fast Lanes. Some weekends. Apply in person at 719 W. Elm. No phone calls.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring for 2nd Production Machine Operators, \$18/hour. Apply at www.full-fill.com Applications available onsite. EOE

East Lynn Fertilizer is looking for a full-time custom applicator. Competitive Pay. Health Insurance & Retirement Plans. Apply in person at 41284 S Main St. East Lynn, IL.

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at silgancontainers.mua.hr/department.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13827

Silgan Containers is hiring an Electrician - Industrial/Maintenance Technician. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hr/department.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13392

Aquality Solutions is looking for men or women to deliver its products to area businesses and residential customers. This position offers benefits and incentive bonuses. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Hoopeston Awards has school jackets. 2 large and 1 XL men's jacket are on hand. Call 217-495-1037