

This year, thus far, is second wettest in over century

MICHAEL SCOTT
Plain Dealer Reporter

Squish.

In a word, that's this year so far. A record-wet March and April have been followed by a soggy May (despite a few consecutive days of blissful sunshine last week), and it's starting to show. Look around town: Everyone's grass is thriving, but their kids' ball-

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games and golf games are drowning.

The rain even took two out of three from the first-place Cleveland Indians last weekend and threatened to shroud the 34th annual Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon in deep fog early

Sunday morning.

Even the guys at the National Weather Service at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport are getting obsessed with wringing something new out of the drippy data.

"Everybody's talking about it because it seems like it's raining every day," said meteorologist Marty Thompson.

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Soggy year, soggy spring

This year has been the second wettest so far since the 1880s.

Year	Rainfall
1950	22.45
2011	20.64
2008	19.18
1913	19.09
1890	18.62

SOURCE: National Weather Service

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WET

FROM A1

Second wettest spring in over a century

It sure did in March and April, when it rained on 54 of 61 days, the highest total on record in more than a century of weather data in Cleveland.

But Thompson said it was fellow meteorologist Marty Mullen who slogged some weather data overnight Sunday to put everyone's misery into some more historical perspective.

"The numbers really tell the story about just how wet and miserable it's been," Thompson said. "It's really all everyone is talking about."

Here are the facts: From Jan. 1 through May 15, we've had 20.64 inches of precipitation. That's second only to the 22.45 inches in 1950.

"Everybody's also wondering when it's going to be over — and it doesn't look like any time soon," Thompson said. "Worse, the long-term forecast for early summer is also cooler



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Soaked. Soggy. Disappointing. Those are some words used to describe this wet spring, which has left standing water in low areas, like here in the Rocky River Reservation.

and wetter."

If that happens, maybe we can think of a few other words.

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your own one-word summary

of the waterlogged spring of

2011.

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