

**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
15 June 2005

**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
JUNE SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

This monthly tip sheet is designed to give you story ideas and tips about upcoming AMS meetings, papers in our nine peer-reviewed journals, and other happenings in the atmospheric and related sciences community.

PAPER TRAIL

Radars Save Lives. Tornado warnings have improved significantly and the number of tornado casualties has decreased by nearly half since a network of Doppler weather radars were installed nationwide by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service a decade ago, according to a study published in the June issue of *Weather and Forecasting*, a journal of the American Meteorological Society.

Precipitation and the Urban Effect in Norcross, Georgia. Among the long-term weather stations in northern Georgia, northwestern Alabama, southeastern Tennessee, southwestern North Carolina and western South Carolina, the largest increase in summer-season heavy precipitation days over the past 50 years occurred at Norcross, Georgia. Norcross, approximately 30 km northeast of downtown Atlanta, is downwind of a large amount of urban land, the amount of which has increased by 75 percent from 1973 to 1992. It is suspected that urban effects played a significant role in the precipitation increase. Just how much? What do we know and still need to learn about the impact of urban changes on rain, snow and other weather events? The details are in the May issue *Journal of Applied Meteorology*. Contact Stephanie Kenitzer for a copy of the paper.

Science Fiction. The May issue of *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* includes an extensive book review section – primarily of science fiction works and the portrayal of weather in science fiction movies. Looking for some great summer science reads you'll find them in the "Readings" section. Unfortunately this file is not available online. A PDF file is available by contacting Stephanie Kenitzer.

Search the Journals. Journalists are encouraged to search the AMS journals for newsworthy papers and research findings. All AMS journals are online and can be searched at <http://ams.allenpress.com/amsonline/?request=index-html> Papers in the *Bulletin of the AMS* can be downloaded without a membership number. For papers in other journals, contact Stephanie Kenitzer at kenitzer@ametsoc.org or (425) 432-2192.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE SCIENCE HAPPENINGS

Hurricanes in a Changing Climate: New Orleans Case Study. The Science on the Hill seminar series continues this month on Monday, June 20 from 3-5 pm. This month's topic is Hurricanes in a Changing Climate: New Orleans and the Case for Resiliency. Questions to be addressed - what is the relation between global warming and hurricane activity? Are the recent active seasons in the Atlantic basin a response to climate warming from increasing greenhouse gases, natural phenomena or something else? If climate warming enhances the hydrologic cycle, is it fair to say that large storms are likely to be influenced by climate change? What happens when a major U.S. metropolitan community such as New Orleans, is at the epicenter of the convergence of a slow and a fast onset hazard, both of significant proportions? Is New Orleans at the margin of its resiliency with respect to hurricanes and other tropical storms? If so, how can this resiliency be stretched to meet the challenges of a changing climate? Details are online at

<http://www.ametsoc.org/atmospolicy/EnvironmentalScienceSeminarSeries.html>

The seminar will take place in the Hart Senate Office Building, Room 920. Media are invited to attend.

Meetings, Meeting and More Meetings. The Society is hosting two specialty meetings this month. The first is the 13th Conference on Middle Atmosphere, 13th Conference on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics and 17th Conference on Climate Variability and Change is going on right now -- June 13-17 in Cambridge, Mass. The second is the 15th Conference on Applied Climatology and 13th Symposium on Meteorological Observations and Instrumentation from June 20-24th in Savannah, Georgia. Details for both are online at http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/meetinfo_hp.html#2005 Media are invited to attend these meetings.

OTHER NEWS

Dr. Anthony Socci Joins AMS Staff. Anthony Socci, a former senior climate science advisor with the EPA's Office of Atmospheric Programs, has formally joined the AMS staff in the Washington, D.C. office. Socci has been part of the AMS team for the past year on a detail. Prior to joining the Society, he was the Associate Executive Director of the multi-agency U.S. Global Change Research Program's Coordination Office where he planned, coordinated and shaped the U.S. government's nearly \$2 billion/year investment in scientific research on the impacts of global- and regional-scale environmental changes, largely climate related. Socci can be reached at socci@ametsoc.org and (202) 733-9006 ext. 412.

Books, Books and More Books? Looking for a great read on the atmospheric and related sciences? Check out the Society's book selection. From snow storms to hurricanes, from numerical modeling to radar technology – it's all available through

the AMS. For the complete list of titles and to order check out <http://www.ametsoc.org/pubs/books/index.html>

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The AMS (<http://www.ametsoc.org>) is the nation's leading professional society for those in the atmospheric and related sciences.