

WICKED HOT MYSTIC

What is Wicked Hot Mystic?

As daily temperatures continue to increase in Massachusetts, the Museum of Science, Boston and the Mystic River Watershed Association are focused on preparing for a hotter Greater Boston and we need your help to collect data on extreme heat throughout the watershed. Through our new Wicked Hot Mystic project, volunteer scientists can help in two ways: 1) collecting data and pictures with ISeeChange phone app 2) collecting ambient air temperature and humidity data via sensors attached to cars and bikes.

What is extreme heat?

Extreme heat means that the temperature is above 90 degrees Fahrenheit. A heat wave is an extended period of extreme heat, where there are three or more days above this temperature. As daily temperatures continue to increase, the dangers of prolonged extreme heat intensifies the negative effects of heat.

Why is extreme heat such an important issue?

Extreme heat is known as the “silent storm of extreme weather” because heat is the leading cause of weather-related mortality in the US and is largely invisible, unlike the damage from a hurricane. The Boston area needs to be better prepared for it. Extreme heat has negative, damaging effects on the built and natural environments, as well as on people’s health. Some are better able to withstand heat than others, but many have a higher risk for heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

How can you help?

To know where the hottest areas are in Greater Boston, we need community volunteers to identify these spots. We are searching for volunteers to help us collect data for a heat map during the summer of 2021. Sign up below. You can also sign up to collect data via ISeeChange—on your own schedule, at the location of your choosing. Visit [ISeeChange.org](https://www.iseechange.org) to get started.

Sign up and learn more about this initiative:
mos.org/wickedhot

Questions? Email forumrsvp@mos.org

