

Snow... In Galveston?



When one thinks of Galveston weather, what typically comes to mind is sunny days on the beach; on a bad day, perhaps tropical storms ... but *snow*?

Yet snow and ice storms have indeed befallen the island, wreaking havoc with transportation, disrupting telephone and electrical service, freezing water pipes, giving children a day off from school, and providing the makings of snowmen and snowball fights.

Since 1871 – the earliest weather record-keeping for Galveston – a number of snowfalls have occurred. In fact, in the hundred years between 1900 and 1999, records show 39 years with snowfall – 11 years experienced measureable amounts, while another 28 years had “trace” amounts. The most significantly wintry years were 1886, when Galveston Bay froze, and 1895, when the island received a whopping snowfall of 15.4 inches. In 2004 Galveston experienced its first-ever white Christmas.

The [Harris Gallery](#), on the Rosenberg Library’s fourth floor, can be viewed during some library hours Monday - Saturday, 9 am - 6 pm.

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