

Moscow Resorts to Fake Snow for New Year Festivities

December 30, 2019



Twitter

Authorities have brought artificial snow to central Moscow for New Year celebrations as the Russian capital experiences the highest December temperatures in more than a century.

Moscow [broke an 1886](#) record earlier this month, reaching 5.4 degrees Celsius on Dec. 18. Average temperatures for the month are usually below minus 6 degrees. Forecasts for the New Year holiday, Russia's main festive celebration, predict rain instead of snow.

Embed:

ФОТОФАКТ! Москва вывозит в регионы мусор, а ввозит - снег. [#Абсурдистан](#)
pic.twitter.com/x2vKuWkkPl

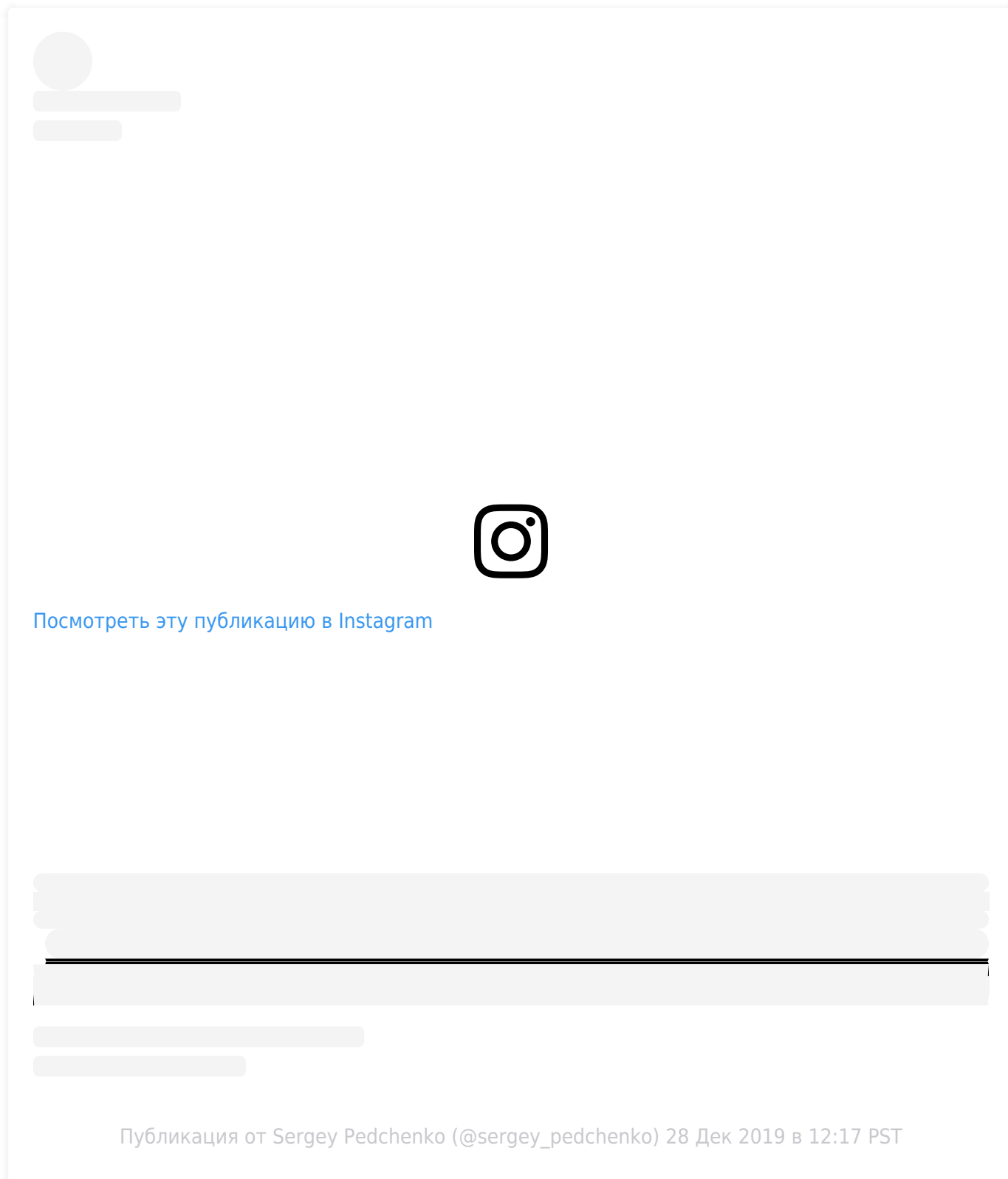
— Мид Роисси (@Fake_MIDRF) [28 декабря 2019 г.](#)

Muscovites posted pictures of heaps of snow in [Zaryadye Park](#) and [Tverskaya Street](#) on social media Friday and over the weekend.

“It’s not festive at all,” one resident dressed as the fairy tale snow maiden Snegurochka [said](#).

“It’s already turned beige or gray,” said another resident, dressed as Russia’s version of Santa Claus.

Embed:



Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

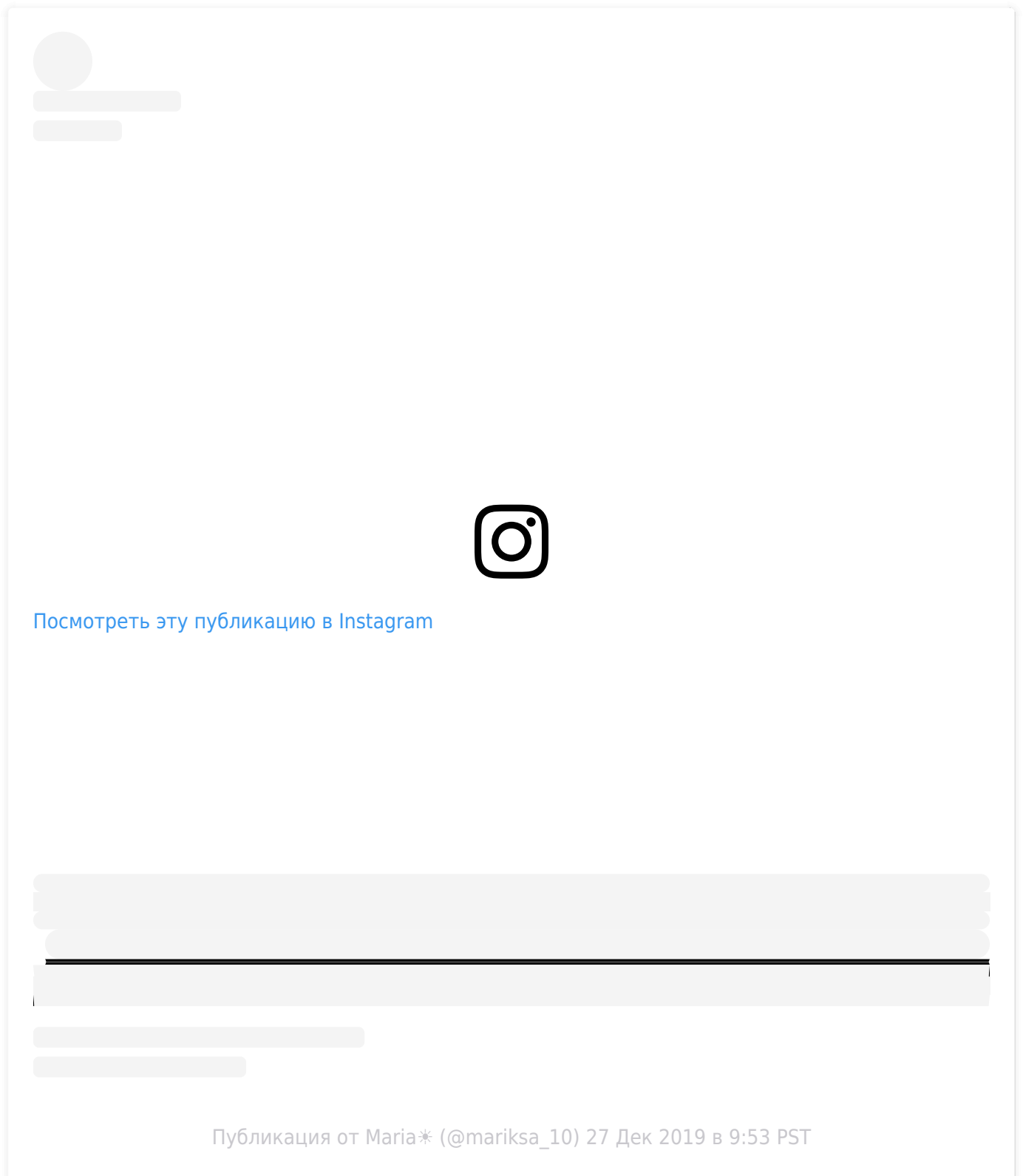
Публикация от Sergey Pedchenko (@sergey_pedchenko) 28 Дек 2019 в 12:17 PST

The snow came from the city's ice rinks and will be used to create snowboarding slopes, First Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office Alexei Nemeryuk [told](#) Interfax.

The lack of snow has also caused flowers to bloom early at Moscow State University's Apothecary

Garden. Snowdrops and rhododendrons there mistook the soft soil for the onset of spring.

Embed:



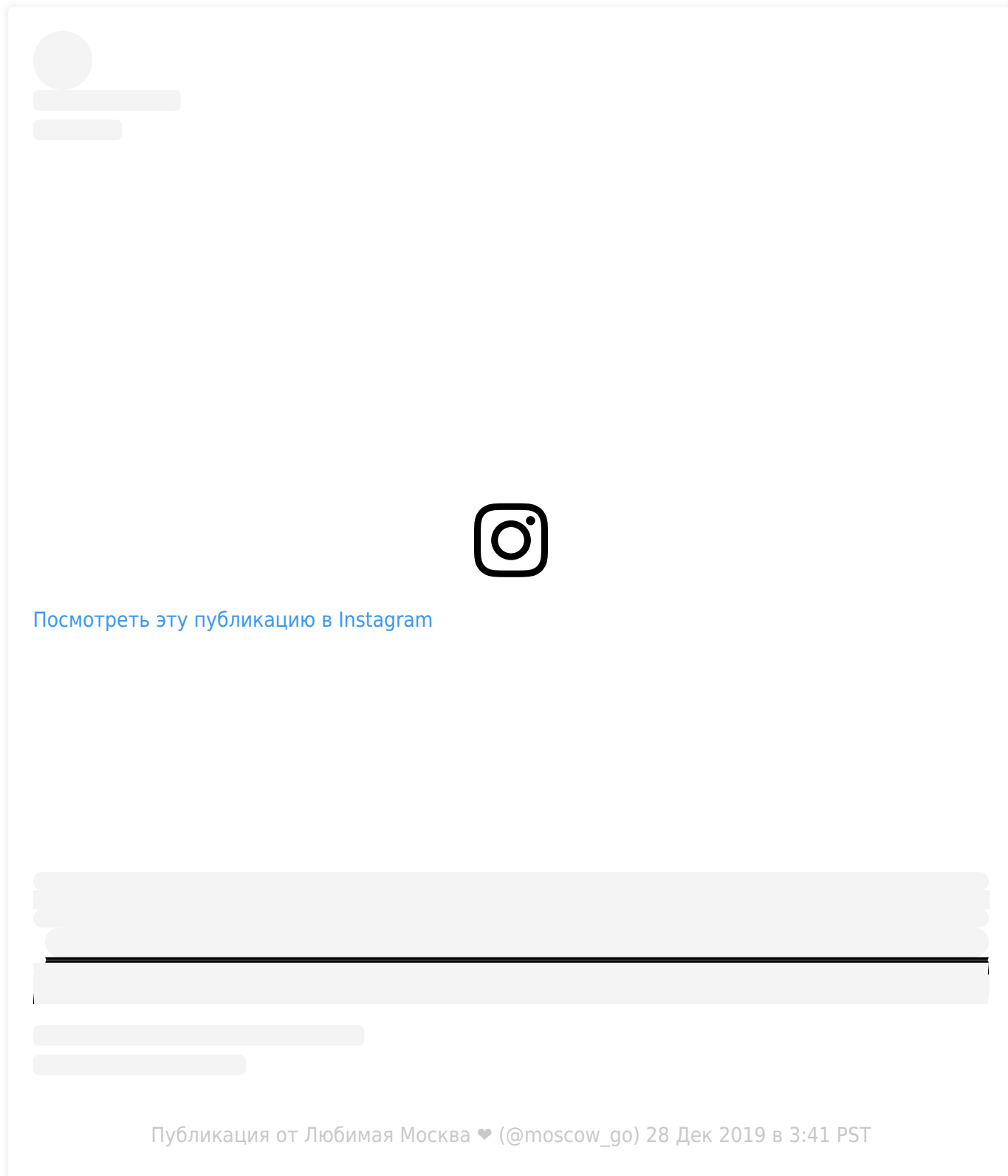
Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от Maria* (@mariksa_10) 27 Дек 2019 в 9:53 PST

An atmospheric front from the Atlantic Ocean has caused the unseasonable warmth.

Russia [remains](#) a relatively climate-skeptic nation, with recent polls saying that less than half of Russians believe climate change poses a major threat to their country.

Embed:



The image shows a placeholder for an Instagram post embed. It features a profile picture placeholder (a circle) and a name placeholder (two horizontal bars) in the top left corner. In the center is the Instagram logo. Below the logo is a blue link that reads "Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram". At the bottom, there is a caption placeholder consisting of several horizontal bars of varying lengths. The caption text is: "Публикация от Любимая Москва ♥ (@moscow_go) 28 Дек 2019 в 3:41 PST".

Moscow also [suffered the coldest summer](#) on record in 2019, with August temperatures falling to 12 degrees Celsius.

Reuters contributed reporting to this article.

Original url: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/12/30/moscow-fake-snow-new-year-a68774>