

SUB-NORMAL TEMPERATURE AND NEAR NORMAL PRECIPITATION

The weather this August calmed down from what the area experienced the past few months. Following is a summary of the precipitation and temperature for the region.

A low pressure area moved up the Atlantic Coast dumping generally 1 to 2 inches of soaking rain across the area on the 12th & 13th. Showers and thunderstorms that moved across the region on the 27th dropped varying amounts of rain. Ray Muller of Finksburg reported a severe thunderstorm which dropped 2.13" of rain in 3 hours. Rainfall for the last half of the month (17th - 31st) was much below normal across the area. Washington Gas Light in Rockville and Rob Cohen of Potomac reported a Trace, the National Weather Service at National Airport recorded only 0.01", Paul Schlosser of Kingsville reported 0.02", and Greg Keefer of Hagerstown reported 0.06" after the 16th.

More than one inch of precipitation fell at only six sites: NWS BWI, Millersville 1 SE, Owings Mills, Finksburg, Eagle Rock, and NWS Dulles.

Temperature wise it was a very pleasant month. For the third and final month this summer, the temperatures were consistent. The area lacked any large variations - heat wave or cool spell. The

highest temperature reported at any site was 96 at the Baltimore Custom House by the NWS. Generally the maximum temperature reported by our observers was in the range of 90 to 92 degrees. The temperature failed to reach the 90 degree mark at the following stations: Millers 4

NE, Eagle Rock, Potomac 4 N, Olney 2 SE, Rockville, 1 NE, Wilmington NWS, and California. On the other side of the thermometer the area saw no extreme low temperatures. Generally across the region the monthly minimum temperature ranged in the mid to upper 50's. The highest minimum temperatures were 65 by Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE and 64 by both John Zyla of Ridge and the Baltimore Custom House NWS.

The low thunderstorms activity helped to reduce the peak wind gusts observed across the area. The

peak wind gust of 28 MPH was reported by NWS National Airport. Dan Hansen of Baltimore 4 SW reported a peak wind gust of 27 MPH.

MONTHLY EXTREMES

MAX TEMPERATURE

96 Balt Cust Hse NWS

94 Jug Bay Wetlands

94 Baltimore 4 SW

94 Baltimore 2 SE

MIN TEMPERATURE

50 Eagle Rock

51 Jug Bay Wetlands

WARMEST AVG TEMPERATURE

78.5 Baltimore 2 SE

76.5 NWS National AP

76.3 Ridge

COOLEST AVG TEMPERATURE

67.9 Eagle Rock

70.9 Millers 4 NE

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

7.12 Whaleysville

5.61 Finksburg

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

2.63 NWS National AP

2.83 Manchester 1 SW

2.96 Potomac 4 N

IWW 1996 ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 8, & 9

TAMPA, FLORIDA

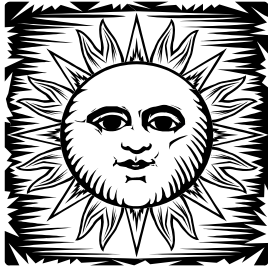
**CONTACT GARY GALLAHER
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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION CONTACT:

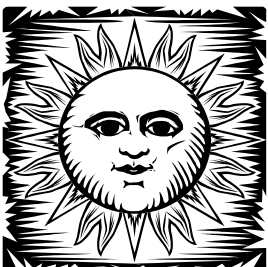
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A CON MARYLAND / DELAWARE CHAPTER



Observer Monthly Highlights

Marty Brumback of Odenton

Amazingly, recorded only one (1) 90 + degree day in August.

Dan Hansen of Millersville 1 SE

A very dull month. This month saw the least number of 90 degree days for any summer month (June, July, and August) since records began in 1983. The average wind speed of 1.3 MPH (since 2/89) and peak gust of 16 MPH (since 1/83) were the lowest of any month on record. The only major weather event was the heavy rain on the 12th-13th. Hurricane Edouard tried to make a visit at the very end of the month but stayed well off shore instead.

Dan Hansen of Baltimore 4 SW

Peak wind gust of 27 and average wind speed of 3.0 MPH are the lowest for any month since records began in 6/91.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

Moderate to heavy rain on the 12th - 13th. A real soaker. The temperature reached 90 on the 23rd for the first time since May 21.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

A persistent trough in the east produced pleasantly warm days and a few convective showers (only two thunderstorms in the immediate vicinity).

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE

A somewhat cooler than normal month with average precipitation.

Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW

Dry month. Below normal temperature. Not much wind. Below normal precipitation. Only one 90 degree day this summer was on 8/23. New record for the three summer month. Only three (3) 90 degree days for the year. This ties the record set in 1989. Heavy rain fell on the 13th.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

This summer was the wettest on record (15 years) with 16.37". It was also the third coolest on record. No 90 degree days occurred this summer, a station record.

Ray Muller of Finksburg

2.13" of rain fell in three hours with the passage of a thunderstorm. Only two 90 degree days were recorded this month.

Fred Hetzel of Olney

Funnel cloud reported in Columbia, MD on the 27th with hail.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

This was a moderately cool and dry month. It was the first month since February with below normal precipitation. Maximum temperature in the 80's, or any 10 degree temperature range, a record. The summer of '96 will go down in the record books as being a bit cool and wet, and one that lacked extremes. It was the 7th coolest and 5th wettest.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

August 1996 was a cool month with a wet beginning and dry end. Perhaps the most notable aspect of it was the rather unusual lack of warm minima. The warmest min all month was 66 on the 3rd, 9th, and 22nd which marked the first time at my current location I did not have a min of 70 or above in August. Low maxs were not all that common either, as the 70 and 71 on the rainy 12th & 13th were the only days to set records in threat category.

Jeff Taylor of Germantown 1.5 W

35 straight days with no 90 degree readings (7/15-8/21). A pleasant month with cooler temps and only 6 days with measurable rain.

Gary Gallaher of Bear 6 WSW

Quiet month with no wide swings of temperature, or a heat wave. Winds were light. Patchy dawn ground fog was common this month. Could not be better.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

The temps were very consistent-highs in the 80's and lows in the 60's. A lot of fog, haze and humid conditions persisted. This summer was the wettest on record with 24.80". The summer seemed cool because of so many record settings summers recently.