



MANY DAYS OF RAIN AND A MID MONTH HEAT WAVE

This month started out with a long period of rain. Rain, not heavy, fell almost every day at most stations from the 1st to the 11th. The area was on the northern side of an east-west frontal system.

Numerous storms moved along the front dropping the rain. Two other shorter periods were occurred. The first one from the 15th to the 19th and the final one from the 26th to the 29th. The latter one brought with it very cool maximum temperatures for the end of May and also brought a quick end to the Memorial Day Weekend.

The extended periods of rain made it difficult for the farmers to plant their crops. Measureable rain fell on an average of 17 days across the two state region. Rainfall totals at most stations ranged in the four to six inches range.

The heaviest rains fell in the western portion of Maryland. Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock recorded 10.98" and Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E recorded 7.83". Only eight (8) stations reported more than 1" of rain on any day. The heaviest daily rain of 1.46"

was recorded by Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E. Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock ran a close second with 1.45".

7.83" at Hagerstown 1 E the second wettest May on record behind the 8.09" set seven years ago

A line of thunderstorms moved thur the two state area on the 11th. The storms dropped heavy rains in some a reas . At Bear 6 WSW DE,

Gary Gallaher recorded a wind gust of 58 MPH from the NW. 1.06" of rain was recorded by Herb Close of Manchester 1 S and Jeff Taylor of Germantown 1.5 W.

A wide range of temperature was also recorded this month. On he 14th many stations recorded record low temperatures for the month of May. The temperature dropped below freezing at ten (10) stations across the area.

Ray Muller of Finksburg recorded a station record low of 28 along with heavy valley frost and moderate frost elsewhere on the hills and plains around his station. The 31 degree reading recorded by Gary Gallaher of Bear 6 WSW was also the coldest he has recorded this late in the spring.

The killing frost of the 14th forced observer Dan Hanson of Baltimore 4 SW to replant his garden.

A breif but intense heat wave arrived on the 19th. It lasted for three days. This was the hottest May heat for most of the areas since May of 1962. Temperatures ranged in the mid to upper 90's at most stations. Dan Hanson of Baltimore 4 SW recorded the 101 on the 20th. Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock, Garrett County, was the only observer not to report a 90 degree plus

97 at Hagerstown 1 E broke the all time May maximum temperature set 97 years ago.

temperature. Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E set an all time record high temperature of 97 for the month of May on the 20th. The previous record for Hagerstown was 96 set way back on May 29, 1899. On the following day the new monthly record was tied.

Jeff Tayor of Germantown 1.5W broke his station record minimum temperature for May three times this month.

<u>MONTHLY EXTREMES</u>	
MAX TEMPERATURE	101 Baltimore 4 SW
MIN TEMPERATURE	24 Eagle Rock
WARMEST AVG TEMPERATURE	64.6 Ridge
COOLEST AVG TEMPERATURE	56.9 Eagle Rock
MAX PRECIPITATION	10.98 Eagle Rock
MIN PRECIPITATION	3.39 NWS Wilmington DE
MAX DAYS WITH >= 0.01" RAIN	22 Eagle Rock
MIN DAYS WITH >=0.01" RAIN	13 South Bowie

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION CONTACT:

**KEVIN SHAW
21 GOODPORT LANE
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878-1058**

Observer Monthly Highlights

Marty Brumback of Odenton 1 SE

Measureable precipitation on 17 days made May mighty moist.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

The temperature fell from 84 to 66 in 30 minutes on the 11th with a frontal passage. Record heat of the 19th - 21st tied and broke records established in 1962.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

A rainy beginning with precipitation fall for 10 consecutive days from the 2 nd through the 11 th. Otherwise a relatively quite month, meteorologically speaking.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE

Normal temperatures overall but wetter than normal.

Herb Close of Manchester 1 S

Heavy thunderstorm produced winds of up to 49 MPH. 1.06" of rain fell on the 11 th. Herb's wedding day (18 th) was warm and humid.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

Record number of days (20) with precipitation of 0.01" or more for any month was set this month. The old record of 17 was set in April 1984. This was the first May to have maximum temperatures in the 90's and minimum temperatures below 32. New record low for May of 30 was set on the 14th. Heavy killing frost was observed that morning. Some light frost observed in the valley on the 31 st.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

The last snow (0.3") of the season fell on the 13th. That gave her a total of 185.3". This was a month of heavy rain. Over 1" fell on 4 different days bringing the monthly total to a very wet 10.98"

Ray Muller of Finksburg

This station recorded a new record low of 28 at 0622 on the 14th. We noted heavy frost in the valley and moderate frost elsewhere on the hills and plains around Finksburg's Valley Weather Office location.

Paul Schlosser of Kingsville 1 S

Vert wet month. Precipitation above normal. Number of days with measureable precipitation 21.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

Record low temperatures set on the 1st, 13th, 14th, 30th, & 31st. Record highs set on the 19th, 20th, and 21st. Record tying 9 consecutive days with 0.01" of precipitation or more.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

As far as temperatures are concerned the month seemed schizophrenic as record heat was more than balanced by frequent persistent damp chill. This was the 5

Measureable rain fell on 17 days tying the May record set in 1979 & tied in 1989. 23 days of rain of a trace or more broke the station month record of 22 set in November 1977.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

19 measureable days of rain a new record for my station, not only a May record, but a record for any month (old record 18 set in March 1993). May records set for high temperature of 95 (old record 94 on 5/30/91) and low temperature of 30 (old record 32 on 5/1/96, 5/2/7, 5/10/83, & 5/13/96). 38 degrees on the 31 set a record for the latest minimum in the 30's.

Jeff Taylor of Germantown 1.5 W

May's record low min temperature set three times this month. 1st 33 degrees, 13th 32 degrees, & 14th 30 degrees. The old record minimum temperature for May was 34. Record 19 days with =>0.01" of rain including 10 consecutive days. Heavy frost on the 14th.

Gary Gallaher of Bear 6 WSW, DE

Strong thunderstorm at 5PM on the 11th produced a wind gust of 58MPH and 0.55" of rain. 31 degrees on the 14th with some light frost the coldest for the month of May on record (since 1963) and the latest freezing temperature in May.

William Hudelson of South Bowie

Light frost was observed at 0600 on the 14th.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

84 straight hours with temperature in the 50's on the 26th to the 30th.

John Zyla of Ridge

80 degrees at midnight on the 20th.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

This month can be broken down into four "chapters": 1st to 12th: Very wet period, 13th to 17th: Frost and Freeze, 18th to 21st: Instant summer / rapid warm up / record heat, and 26th to 31st: Cold and rainy again. All time May maximum temperature of 97 set on the 19th (breaking the record of 96 set 5/29/1899) The new record was tied on the 20th.

Kenny Boggs of Whaleysville

Cold wet spring put the farmer 2 weeks behind with their plantings.

**DON'T FORGET THE
AMERICAN WEATHER
MUSEUM'S ANNUAL
CONFERENCE IN
HAVERHILL, NEW
HAMPSHIRE JULY 12-
14TH. CONTACT
KEVIN FOR DETAILS**

**ARE YOU A MEMBER
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
WEATHER WATCHERS?
WHY NOT JOIN TODAY!
TO SEE WHAT YOU ARE
MISSING CONTACT
KEVIN FOR DETAILS**