

Atlantic Coast Observers Network MARYLAND / DELAWARE CHAPTER

DRIEST MONTH OF THE YEAR

November was the driest month of the year so far. The average precipitation for all stations covered by this publication including the Washington NWS at National Airport and Dulles NWS both in nearby Virginia, was **1.13"**, making it the **overall driest month since ACON was founded in 1985**. For Washington NWS at National it was the second driest July - November in history (5.71") behind 1930 when 4.75" fell. The flow of the Potomac fell to its lowest rate since 1943. It was also the driest July - November at both Baltimore BWI and at Dulles.

The driest ACON station for the July - November period was **Rich Giannola John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab at Laurel - 5.52"**. The second driest was **Dan Hanson's Millersville 1 SE - 5.64**.

Thanksgiving morning saw the heaviest rain of the entire month across all areas except for portions of Montgomery County. The heaviest amounts of 1/2" to 3/4" fell east of Washington County. Lesser amounts fell in and west of Washington County and in St Marys County.

LACK OF SNOW

Very little snow fell this month due to the generally dry pacific and continental air masses. The only measurable snow observed fell at **Rebecca Harvey's Eagle Rock** station in western Maryland's Garrett County. A little of sleet was observed on the 3rd by **Kevin Shaw** of **Gaithersburg 2 WNW**, **Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4 NE** and **Robert Rickell** of **Union Mills 2 SE**.

NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES

Temperatures across the area averaged close to normal. The air flow was generally west to east which brought in dry pacific air and fewer clouds. This all led to the colder night time temperatures at valley and protected locations, while hill top stations saw warmer night time temperatures. Temperatures remained above freezing in Baltimore City this month.

The first half of the month saw temperatures below normal. The 5th saw the coldest temperatures at all stations except for the St Marys County stations which had their coldest

EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Montgomery College	76
Whaleysville	76

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	17
Smithsburg	20
Owings Mills 2 SE	21
Gaithersburg 2WNW	21
Hagerstown 1E	21

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Ridge	52.3
Baltimore 2 SE	52.2
Montgomery College	50.4
Hollywood	49.3

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	43.1
Thurmont	43.1
Bear 2SW DE	43.6
Owings Mills 2SE	43.7

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Forest Glen	1.50
Dawsonville	1.47
Olney	1.44
Gaithersburg	1.40

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Eagle Rock	0.72
Thurmont	0.78
Millersville 1SE	0.93
Manchester 1S	0.96

temperature on the 22nd. The next week and a half saw temperatures which averages slightly above normal with the warmest temperatures on the 20th.

BEGINNINGS OF RECORD HEAT

An extended warm spell of record proportions began on the 26th and lasted well into December (details in the December ACON Report) The 29th brought temperatures in the low to mid 70's, setting daily maximum temperatures at many stations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT ACON CONTACT:

KEVIN SHAW
ACON MD/DE COORDINATOR
E-MAIL ADDRESS
Kevin_D_Shaw@compuserve.com

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 1998

Dan Hanson of Millersville 1 SE

November 1998 was the third month this year with less than 1" of precipitation.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

A warm and dry month. Driest since 1981 (0.88")

5th - First killing frost

25th - 3:30-3:40AM Heavy downpour with wind gust of 30 MPH

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

Extremely dry conditions with temperatures near average for the most part.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE

Mostly normal temperatures but again much below normal precipitation.

Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW

Driest November in the 10 years of this station. This was also the second November with no snow. It also was the third warmest November.

29 - Warm - saw a couple of butterflies

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

Very dry month. Not much late autumn feelings. 1st snowflakes yet to be seen. This month was 6 degrees warmer than November 1997.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 ENE

Fall 1998: Avg. max 67.2 (+2.6)

Avg. min 47.2 (+1.9)

Avg. temp 57.2 (+2.2)

Precip 6.79" (-4.88")

A mild and very dry November, driest since 1981. and the driest month since June 1988 (0.53"). Some local woods / brush fires, most small in size.

3rd - A brief period of sleet approx. 11:20PM - 11:30PM

29th - Record high of 70

Rob Rickell of Union Mills 2 SE

3rd - Sleet / Flurries

Jack Thomas of Middle Mt, Thurmont

The drought continues

Paul Schlosser of Kingsville 1 S

Temp 1.1 above normal, precip 2.62 below normal, year to date precip 3.41" above normal.

JHU/APL of Laurel

10th - Warm front approaching in late evening. Between 10:30 - 10:45 PM, temperature increased from 58 to 60, winds shifted from ESE to SSE and getting stronger.

11th - Cold frontal passage 4-4:15 AM as temperatures dropped from 69 to 55 and winds shifted from S to WNW

30th - Solar halo 9:00AM

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

9th - 31st consecutive day without measurable precipitation. 0.02" fell on the 10th.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Yet another very dry month. Still no long soaking rain. Mild days but cold nights resulting in a large average range between min and max temperatures.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

The close of November marked a full 20 years of weather observations here at 21 Goodport Lane. This was a dry month with fairly seasonable temperatures.

This was the second driest November behind 1981 when 0.38" fell.

3rd - I observed some ice pellets this morning.

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW

Dry, sunny month. Daily record max set on the 29th. 4.72" of precipitation this month made this fall the second driest behind 1965 when 4.64" fell. Spread between avg. max and avg. min temp (23.9 degrees) was the second greatest for November.

Bill Hudelson of South Bowie

Again a very dry month, the third driest November since I began record keeping back in 1976. It was only beat by 0.45" in 1981, and 0.80" in 1976.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

11 - Record maximum of 71 set.

26th - Early am rain, heavy shower about 4:30AM, clearing late am, sunny, windy afternoon, clear evening.

Clinton Bubb of Morganza

July - November precipitation = 7.76"

John Zyla of Ridge

10th - 66 degree high at midnight

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

5th driest November on record. Driest is 0.28" in 1917.

28th, 29th, 30th Record high temps each day

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 3 NE

10th - 60 MPH winds parts of my automated rain gauge blown 1/4 mile away.

Outdoor fire ban issued. Numerous field and forest fires.