

Atlantic Coast Observers Network
MARYLAND / DELAWARE CHAPTER

DROUGHT DEEPENS SEASONABLE TEMPERATURES

This was a “quiet” weather month. **Rob Rickell** of **Union Mills 2 SE** reported the only thunder of the month. The only weather notable event of this “ho-hum month”, as Kevin Shaw noted in his report, was the rains across the area on the 8th. Over an inch of precipitation was measured over a large area in central Maryland. Over 2” fell at the following stations: **Herb Close** of **Manchester 1 S** - 2.49”, **Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4 NNE** - 2.48”, **Al Kreinik** of **Parkton 5 SW** - 2.36”, **Ralph Hartsock** of **Westminster 4 SSE** - 2.29”, **Robert Rickell** of **Union Mills 2 SE** - 2.21”, and **Clinton Bubb** of **Morganza** - 2.07”.

The lack of rainfall continued for the fourth consecutive month. All but a few hundreds of an inch fell outside of the 3rd to the 14th. Four month totals of roughly 25% to 33% of average was observed by **Rich Gianolla** of the **John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab at Laurel** - 4.29”, **Dan Hanson** of **Millersville 1 SE** - 4.71”, **Joe Terry** of **Forest Glen**, and **John Zyla** of **Ridge** - 5.04” (3.86” since 7/9). The National Weather Service at BWI reported 4.66” and Washington National Airport reported 4.80” during the same period.

No extreme warmth or cold was observed this month. At many locations the warmest day was the 1st and coldest was on the 23rd.

The lack of precipitation also brought with it a lack of snowfall. The only snow of the month was reported by **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock** on the 23rd; 1.3 inches fell.

EXTREMES REPORTED
BY ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Ridge	87
California	85
Morganza	83

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	28
Jug Bay Wetlands	29
Parkton 5 SW	29
Owings Mills 2 SE	29

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Ridge	62.0
Baltimore 2 SE	61.9
California	59.5

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	52.1
Owings Mills 2 SE	53.5
Westminster 4 NNE	53.7

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Millers 4 NE	4.16
Manchester 1 S	3.62
Parkton 5 SW	3.56
Union Mills 2 SE	3.53
Westminster 4 SSE	3.20

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Ridge	0.43
South Bowie	0.66
Baltimore 2 SE	0.84
Millersville 1 SE	0.85
Potomac 1 N	0.84

10TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Herb Close of Manchester 1 S, Maryland is holding his annual Christmas Party on December 12 from 2PM to late at night. This is our biggest gathering of the year. Mark your calendars!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR OCTOBER 1998

Dan Hanson of Millersville 1 SE

The very dry conditions worsened during October. This was the second month this year with rainfall of less than one inch. Since July 1 (123 days) only 4.71" of rain has fallen, which is about 25% of average. The first freeze occurred on the 23rd.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

First third of the month was wet; the remainder was bone dry! Ponds in the area are showing the effect-falling water levels.

8th - Light to moderate rain early AM, heavy late morning & afternoon.

22nd & 23rd - Light frost in low areas.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

A rather seasonably mild and somewhat dry autumn month. Frost on the 23rd, 30th & 31st.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE

Another month with below normal precipitation.

Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW

23rd - 35 deg. Moderate frost on car & house roof

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

8th - Heavy soaking rain - A lovely day.

Drought continues - no end in sight. No hard freeze

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 ENE

Over 4 inches of rain from the 4th through the 10th. Excellent harvesting conditions, but precipitation is needed.

30th - Moderate frost, 1st freeze but not killing.

Rob Rickell of Union Mills 2 SE

8th - Heavy soaking rain and thunder

Jack Thomas of Middle Mt, Thurmont

Out of town 14 days this month.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

21st - First snowfall of the season 1.3"

JHU/APL of Laurel

4.29" of rain fell during the last 4 months.

No rain fell during the last 17 days.

Rich Giannola of Olney

8th-9th - RW, occasional RW=, early AM to mid afternoon on 8th = 1.56". RW began again 5:50PM into evening: 0.14" more by 10:10PM. RW- and L overnight and through 9th totaled 0.08" more by 5:30PM on 9th. More RW- in evening totaled 0.04" by midnight.

11th-31st - Dry, only 0.03" fell.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Another very dry month. All the rain in the 1st half. Longest period without measurable rain since the drought of 1995.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

October was a rather ho-hum month, with no outstanding hot or cool spells. Precipitation was significantly below normal for the fourth month in a row. Since July 1 only 6.38" has fallen.

8th - 1.70" of rain fell today which was 87% of the entire month total.

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW

Temperatures averaged slightly below normal. The first sub-freezing temperature came on the 24th under calm cloudless conditions. Precipitation was below normal for the 6th out of the past 8 months. This was the third driest Sep-Oct (3.32") period in station history.

Jim Canavan of Wilmington 4 NNE

23rd - Light frost

Bill Hudelson of South Bowie

This was the driest October (0.66") since I began keeping records in 1976.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

8th - 1.56" of the months total of 1.65" fell today.

Clinton Bubb of Morganza

8th - 2.07" of rain fell

John Zyla of Ridge

No frost this month. Only 0.43" of rain fell making it the lowest monthly precipitation in station history (1/95). Only 3.86" has fallen since 7/9/98 (114 days).

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

2nd - 35 degrees this morning with light frost, the first of the season.

30th - Light freeze first of the season with a low of 32 F Moderate frost. This was still not a widespread hard killing freeze.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 3 NE

Fourth consecutive month if below average precipitation.

Kenny Boggs of Whalesville

No rain fell from the 9th to the 31st.

23rd - Frost