

Atlantic Coast Observers Network  
MARYLAND / DELAWARE CHAPTER

## THIRD CONSECUTIVE DRY MONTH WARMEST SEPTEMBER IN YEARS

Dry conditions continued for the third consecutive month across the area. The driest areas were west of the Chesapeake Bay from Baltimore south through St Marys County. This month did not see quite as many stations reporting less than 1 inch as did August (10 vs. 6 this month). Overall less rain fell this month (1.61") than in August (1.98") across the two state and DC region. Since July 1 **Ralph Hartsock of Westminster** observed only 4.41" of rain while **Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW** observed 4.42".

Isolated areas received over 1" of rain from showers and thunderstorms this month. The heaviest was observed by **Kenny Boggs of Whaleysville** during a strong thunderstorm accompanied by 50 MPH winds on the afternoon of the 17th. During the 1 hour and 15 minutes storm 2.20" fell.

Summer was slow to leave this month. 90 degree plus days were common. **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NNE** reported his warmest September in 17 years of records. **Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW** and **Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW** reported their warmest since 1980. **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E** reported the 3rd hottest September in 101 years.

A couple of brief spells of cool "fall-like" weather occurred this month. The first one was from the 8th to the 11th and the other from the 23rd - 25th. On the 24th the first scattered light frost was observed protected areas in Northern Maryland and Northern Delaware.

### EXTREME REPORTED BY

#### ACON OBSERVERS

#### MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Hollywood	98
Baltimore 2 SE	97
Jug Bay Wetlands	97
Ridge	97
Hagerstown 1 E	97

#### MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Parkton 5 SW	36
Owings Mills 2 SE	36
Westminster 4 SSE	38
Millers 4 NNE	38
Bear 2 SW DE	38

#### WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	76.1
Ridge	75.9

#### COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	66.2
Thurmont, Middle Mt.	68.2
Westminster 4 NNE	68.4

#### MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Whaleysville	3.20
Owings Mills	3.14
Eagle Rock	2.92
Manchester 1 S	2.51

#### MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Laurel JHU / APL	0.80
Morganza	0.80
Jug Bay Wetlands	0.91
Gaithersburg 2 WNW	0.92

### Welcome Richard Giannola

Rich has joined us. He supplied data last month for Laurel JHU / APL (John Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab) where he works and this month from his home in Olney.

WELCOME RICH!

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
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# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1998

## **Dan Hanson of Millersville 1 SE**

Nearly all of the months rain fell during a four (4) hour period from 9 PM on the 17th to 1 AM of the 18th.

## **Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW**

2nd - Heavy thunderstorm 0443 hrs. 0.5" by 0510, alternate bands of moderate to heavy rain, much closer lightning, 1.10" by 0645, 1.45" by 0700 hrs.

24th - "Steam" over pond due to very cool night.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

Rather warm and somewhat dry ending to summer (month). Virtually no appreciable rain.

1st - Thunderstorm 0630-0730 hrs, 1.62" fell

## **Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE**

Another dry month for Baltimore

## **Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW**

Record high temperatures were set on the 6th (90), 7th (88), 12th (88), 13th (87), 14th (89), 16th (92) and 27th (92). The records on the 16th & 27th tied the all-time September max for this station (10 years)

## **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 ENE**

Easily the warmest of 17 Septembers. First Sept with average maximum 80+, also the third driest.

24th - Some valley frost.

## **Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE**

We desperately need a soaking rain. Only 4.41" precip since 7/1.

## **Jack Thomas of Middle Mt, Thurmont**

5th - Vines and briars wilting.

## **Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N**

27th - Late season record maximum temp of 91.

## **Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW**

September '98 was a real record-breaker, on both the temperature and precipitation side. I experienced my driest September ever with a meager total of 0.92" breaking the previous record of 1.00" set in 1986. What had been a wet year has really been reversed the past three months, as only 4.42" of rain has fallen since July 1. This was my warmest September mean temperature eclipsing the old record of 71.2 set in 1980.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

Another dry month with few cloudy days. Many hot days (11 90 degree days, most of the year), but mingled with two (2) brief very cool spells.

## **Jim Canavan of Wilmington 4 NNE**

2nd - Hail

## **Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW**

Warmest September since 1980, and the second driest (1.27") on record. The driest September was 1.23" set in 1970. Dry conditions worsened during the month. Summer like conditions continued throughout the month with brief periods of cool fall like temperatures.

24th - Few patches of light frost on roof tops.

## **Bill Hudelson of South Bowie**

A generally uneventful month as far as local weather goes, and although dry. We had still rain in 1986 (0.74") and 1978 (0.95").

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

27th - 95 degrees was a station record high for the date and for so late in September. 74.1 degree average temperature was the warmest for the station (records go back to 1980)

## **Marlene Walchli of California 3 NW**

This was the driest month so far this year! the lowest rainfall monthly total since May 1997 (1.58")

24th - Foggy over creek early. Bright, sunny, blue sky, with a cool breeze.

## **John Zyla of Ridge**

Six (6) 90 degrees or higher set a station record for September

4th - Remnants of Tropical Storm Earl passed by.

7th - 97 degrees highest September temperature ever for this station. Old record was 96.

23rd - First cool, fallish day, beautiful!

## **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E**

6th - Very hot! Record high of 97. Old record was 96 set in 1900. This was also the hottest of the Summer. Also low humidity again today.

7th - Wind gusts of 35 MPH this morning at 1130 AM from thunderstorms well to the north. Thunderstorms 815 PM to 930 PM brief heavy rains 0.45". Wicked severe lightning with one of the strikes extremely close and explosive doing damage to both of my weather stations electronics and one computer. That's the first time in 28 years that any of my weather equipment has been damaged by lightning.

12th - Record maximum temp of 95. Old was 93 in 1927. This was a very sunny month with an average sunshine percentage of 68.5% one of the highest I've seen in a long time.

## **Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 3 NE**

16th - 96 set a new record for the month.

Driest September on record of 1.19" set.