



**Atlantic Coast Observers Network
 MARYLAND / DELAWARE CHAPTER
 With Data from Nearby Areas**



FIRST MONTH OF WINTER SEES LITTLE SNOWFALL AND MILD TEMPERATURES

December followed the same footprint as did most of the others this year - above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

The first day of the month along with the last day of November saw the coldest temperatures of the winter season so far. Temperatures rose rapidly so by the 3rd 60 degree temperatures were common across the region. These temperatures remained through the 5th. The warmest ACON stations **Jug Bay** and **Hollywood** (71), while **Ridge**, **Baltimore 2 SE**, **Bryans Road 2 SE**, and **Harberson DE** each had 70. Maximum temperatures cooled off some what but remained generally in the 40's and 50's while minimums were in the 30's until the first day of winter. Many stations saw their first subfreezing day of the month on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Near seasonal temperatures remained until 50's and a few 60's returned for the last two days of the month.

On the precipitation side, amounts were generally in the 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inch range. Five periods of precipitation occurred this month. All were rain except the last one which occurred on the 28th. The 13th -14th saw the heaviest amounts. Amounts of over an inch fell at all ACON stations east of the mountains. The heaviest fell at **Owings Mills** (2.18") while the least fell at **Bryans Road 2 ESE** (1.02"). The precipitation event of the 20th - 22nd saw a little sleet at many stations on the 22nd. **Forest Glen** (0.4"), **Gaithersburg 2 WNW** (0.2"), **Glenmont** (0.2"), and **Hanover 2 S PA** (0.1") were the only ACON stations to report measurable sleet. The last event was a pure snow one. This was a very light event with measurable snow falling at 14 sites. The heaviest was 1" at **Owings Mills 2 SE**, **Manchester 1 SW**, and **Hanover 2 S PA**. Other amounts except for **Millers 4NE** (0.9") were less than 1/2" .

Eagle Rock, located in Western Maryland's Garrett County, was the only station to report multiple days with one inch. Snowfall of over one inch (1") was observed on six (6) days with the heaviest one on the first of December (3.0"). The balance of the ACON stations remained snow starved. Thirteen (13) stations scattered across the two state region have yet to see any measurable snowfall.

EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Jug Bay Wetlands	71
Hollywood	71
Bryans Head 2 ESE	70
Baltimore 2 SE	70
Harberson DE	70

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	2
Westminster 4 SSE	10
Owings Mills 2 SE	11
Manchester 1 SW	11
Hagerstown 1 E	11

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Ridge	43.8
Baltimore 2 SE	42.5
Hollywood	41.7

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	31.4
Hanover 2 S	35.3
Westminster 4 SSE	35.8

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Owings Mills 2 SE	3.80
Westminster 4 SSE	3.73
Millers 4 NE	3.66

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Ridge	2.22
Baltimore 2 SE	2.29
Bryans Road 2 ESE	2.30

MAXIMUM SNOWFALL

Eagle Rock	10.8
Hanover 2 S PA	1.1
Parkton 5 SW	1.0
Manchester 1 SW	1.0

MANY THANKS!!

Since I volunteered to be the Data Coordinator and Report Writer in 1992, I have enjoyed it. Any suggestions, comments, please forward to either Kevin or myself. This publication would not be possible with **dedicated observers** like you!

Gary Gallaher, Bear 2 SW DE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 ABOUT ACON CONTACT:

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

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR DECEMBER 1999

Jug Bay Wetlands

10th - Rain started at 10 AM

21st - Overcast with geese.

29th - Light dusting of snow on ground at observation time.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

3rd to 5th - Warmest days of the month.

4th - Dense fog at 10:30 PM.

28th - Light snow 6:30 - 9:35 PM.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

16th - Scattered clouds / sunshine, windy and much colder.

31st - Foggy start, hazy sun and clouds and mild

Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW

1st - Very cold, winds North 10-30 MPH.

28th - Light to moderate evening snow.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

6th - More rain fell today than during December 1998.

10th - Mid day and PM rain, some heavy.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 N

1st - First sub-zero wind chill of season.

3rd to 5th - Very mild, but not close to any record. Last year was milder.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

1st - 3.0" of snow, the heaviest of the month.

Rich Giannola of JHU/APL

15th - AM for lifting for a short time ~ noon, then returning in early afternoon.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4N

15th - Dense morning fog.

Rich Giannola of Olney

6th - Mostly AM rain. 0.61" by 5:30 PM.

21st - Light rain and light sleet in afternoon. More light sleet in the evening.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

21st - Showers of sleet and light rain fell late in the afternoon and evening and were mostly brief. Sleet began falling around 10:15 PM and mixed with rain until obs. 0.1" on grass, cars.

22nd - Sleet at obs mixed with and changed to light rain...changed to snow grains by 2:30 AM changed to light snow by 3:30 AM which accumulated another 0.1" on grass, cars. Did not stick on pavement.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

A relatively warm beginning with gradual cooling until almost the end of the month. The coldest being around Christmas. 90% of the precipitation came during the first half of December. Only two (2) minor snow/ice events.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

December was milder and slightly drier than normal. The only low min temperature was set on the 28th (17 deg). No new maximum temperatures were set.

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Mild first month of Winter. Above normal temperatures 3rd-21st. No measurable snow fell this month. Only major event was on the 13th - 14th. Cold Christmas.

Bill Hudelson of South Bowie

1st - Clear, heavy frost 0700 hours

15th - Dense fog until 1300 hours.

28th - Light snow 1900 - 2100 hours, just a dusting on cars and grass.

Marlene Walchli of California

11th - Crystal clear, blue skies, unrestricted visibility after the rains of yesterday.

27th - Becoming cloudy by Noon, very fine, light snow flurries.

John Zyla of Ridge

28th - Snow showers 8:15 - 10:15 PM. 0.5"

Tim Preuss of Harberson, DE

5th - Beautiful day 70 degrees

9th - Freezing fog in AM.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

20th - Fog with periods of rain and drizzle today.

25th - Christmas Cold low of 11. A mostly sunny breezy cold day.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 3 NE

Precipitation for the month and year below normal. Precipitation 10.93" below normal since July 1, 1998, 1.07" for '99

28th - First measurable snowfall of the season

Rob Rickell of Hanover 2 S, PA

28th - As of 9PM this evening 1" of the "fluffy white stuff," that is snow, of which we don't see enough of, had accumulated here in South Hanover. Roadways have become extremely slippery. It seems that there is a thin film of ice on the roadways beneath the snow cover. Many cars have had much trouble traveling up and down between the 2 hills here where I live. My neighbors mailbox just got "knocked down" as a car lost control. Several other cars have slid off the road.

OBSERVER NEWS

NEW MEMBER:

Tim Preuss of Haberson, Delaware

Tim's station is located between Lewes and Georgetown. Tim fills a void that we have. He is the only ACON observer from south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal in Delaware. **Welcome Tim** - we all will be looking forward to your monthly reports.

Compiled by Gary Gallaher, MD/ACON DE Data Collector and Report Writer, from data received from observers.