



# ATLANTIC COAST OBSERVER NETWORK, MD / DE / DC CHAPTER WITH DATA FROM NEARBY AREAS

## WHERE'S THE HEAT?? HEAVY RAINS IN ST. MARYS HOLLYWOOD TORNADO

### JULY COOLNESS

July 2000 entered the record books as one of the coolest on record. According to the NWS, it was the coolest at the three Washington / Baltimore airports. For Washington it was the coolest since 1918 and for Baltimore 1891. Many ACON observers reported it to be one of the coolest if not their coolest July.

Twenty (20) stations (including NWS stations) reported that July average temperature was cooler than June while four (4) tied June's.

ACON member **Greg Keefer** of **Hagerstown 1E** reported that for the first time since records began in 1898 the temperature failed to rise to 90. The temperature also failed to rise to 90 at all **ACON** stations in Baltimore County (**Sharrow & Kreinik**), and Carroll County (**Close, Hartsock, and Miller**). **Rob Rickell** of **Hanover 2S, PA** and **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock** also failed to reach 90.

The hottest day across the region was the 10th while the 30th & 31st saw high humidity and dew points in the 70's.

### NUMEROUS SHOWERS

For the third consecutive month a majority of rain fell during the last half of the month. Some of the showers were heavy while many were light. The 17th and 23rd were the only two days generally rain free across the two state region.

The wettest portion of the region was Prince Georges County, where **Bill Hudelson** of **South Bowie** recorded 8.64", and St Marys County **Clinton Bubb** of **Morganza** recorded 8.56". The three other reporting observers each recorded over 10 inches.

The two wettest days were the 15th and the 26th. **John Zyla** of **Ridge 1 N** recorded 3.20" on the 26th and 2.27" on the 15th. **Jim Canavan** of **Wilmington 4 NNE** measured 2.70" on the 26th.

### HOLLYWOOD TORNADO

The following is a note received from **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood**

"It was about 4:50 PM, Monday, July 31st and I was shutting down the computer in preparation for a routine thunderstorm. The neighbors called and said "Floyd, You have tornado in Your back yard!!" It suppose to be the other way around. I'm suppose to let Them know when tornadoes come around! How embarrassing! The neighbors were out watching the small tornado that had just passed. I went out and yes I saw one, a funnel cloud!! The one I saw Didn't come down very far but it was rotating. I was outside only a few minutes but went back in the house there were a lot of calls on My answer machine from those who saw the tornado, even calls from car phones as traffic slowed in front of My house. There was a brief touchdown less than a mile from My house and it ripped a dugout apart at the ball field. I would guess it was on the low side of a F1 or a F0 (Gale tornado, 40-72 mph). As all this was going on I recorded light winds and no rain at My station. It was the first funnel cloud I've seen live!" Note: The NWS classified it as a F0 tornado.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT ACON CONTACT:  
KEVIN SHAW  
ACON MD/DE COORDINATOR  
E-MAIL ADDRESS:  
Kevin\_D\_Shaw@compuserve.com

### EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

#### MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Smithsburg 3 NE	96
duPont Circle NW DC	95
Six Stations	93

#### MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	42
Parkton 5 SW	48
Smithsburg 3 NE	48
Hanover 2 S, PA	48

#### WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

duPont Circle NW, DC	77.5
Baltimore 2 SE	76.1
Ridge	74.7
Bethesda	74.6

#### COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	65.2
Hanover 1 S	69.2
Parkton 5 SW	70.1
Westminster 4 SSE	70.2

#### MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Oraville	10.59
Ridge	10.56
Hollywood	10.02
South Bowie	8.64

#### MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Bear 2 SW DE	3.00
Eagle Rock	3.82
Smithsburg 3 NE	4.03
Millersville 1 SE	4.19

### NOTES

**Ray Muller** has moved from Finksburg to Westminster. His new station name is **Westminster 1 N**.

**New Station** - Georgetown DE Univ. of DE Research and Education Center has granted permission to print their data which appears on the Internet.

**Floyd Abell** - Catch his weather forecast evenings at [www.wlpconsulting.com/Floyd/Floyd.htm](http://www.wlpconsulting.com/Floyd/Floyd.htm)

# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR JULY 2000

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

Second coolest July (1963-1967,1971-1986,1990-2000). Only 1978 was cooler (72.2). First 13 days cool, except for the 10th, and dry. Shallow rooted plants showing moisture stress, yard brown. Rain, mostly light, fell on all but 4 of the last 18 days. The 1.16" which fell on the 26th was the heaviest daily rain since March. The last four days were quite muggy with dew points mainly in the 70's.

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

26th - 2.70" of rain

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

This month was 6.3 degrees cooler than 1999.

7th - Early AM shower, deep blue sky in the afternoon.

8th - Only heating degree day of the month (2).

15th - Heavy downpour 1:45 to 2:00 PM, very dark.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

Maximum temperature failed to reach 90 this month.

1st - Brilliant sunshine with comfortable humidity.

6th - Azure blue skies with low humidity values.

17th - AM dense fog.

26th - Overcast and cool with steady rainfall.

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

28th - P.C., warm, humid, severe thunderstorm (2.62')

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

No clear days this month. No 90 degree days this month for the first time since 1996. Coolest July on record (12 yrs.). Old one was 1996 with 71.6.

8th - 49 degrees. Coolest July temp. Old was 53 on 7/11/99

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

Average maximum temp 9 degrees cooler than 1999. Unbelievable month for fronts and no real heat.

18th - Heavy shower, 0.25" in 7 minutes.

31st - Heavy PM storms - Tropical type.

## **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE**

Coolest July in 19 years of record, more than 4 degrees below normal and 7 degrees cooler than last year.

30th & 31st - Tropical Cu & CB, very humid.

## **Rich Giannola of JHU/APL Laurel**

Measurable precipitation recorded on 15 or the last 19 days.

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

Coolest July on record. Beat 1996 by 0.1 degree.

## **Rich Giannola of Olney**

3rd & 4th - Sprinkles 5:10 PM on the 3rd = trace. Few drops 7:25 - 7:45 PM = 0.01". More RW's in late evening through early AM on 4th = 0.41" more.

24th - RW all day. Total 0.32" by 6:15 PM.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

Avg. temp only 0.1 degree warmer than June, but avg. maximum 0.2 degree cooler. This July the average maximum temperature was 10 degrees cooler than 1999.

10th - Partly sunny (Broken high clouds), humid, PM thun-

derstorm.

23rd - Dim sunshine, comfortable.

30th - Humid, thunder, then sprinkle, Mostly sunny

## **Bill Hudelson of South Bowie**

3rd - Severe thunderstorm warning 2030. Thunderstorm with heavy rain 2045 - 2155 hours.

14th - Thunderstorm and rain began 2250, heavy rain, gusty winds - NW 32, frequent lightning.

16th - Severe thunderstorm 1300 hours with quarter to golf ball size hail, gusty winds - NW 37, heavy rain.

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

Coolest July in 20 years of records. Wettest July on record. Old was 9.76" in 1996.

10th - Hazy, hot, humid with a evening thunderstorm about 10:30 PM.

15th - Strong storms before dawn (2.34")

31st - Funnel cloud (See page 1 for details)

## **Clinton Bubb of Morganza**

No 90 degree temperatures for the month. Max was 89.9 set on the 10th.

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

No 90 degree temperatures for the first July since records began in 1898. The only other time we came close to not having any 90 weather in July was in 1947 when the temperature hit 91 on the 30th for the only 90 degree day of the month. This month was the 6th coolest July. July 1999 set the record for the most 90 degree days with 23.

1st - Sunny warm very nice day.

10th - A very warm hazy humid day with dew points in the 70's and the heat index near 100. Showers and thunderstorms this afternoon between 3 PM - 6 PM dropped .35".

16th - Note: Other parts of this County have been hit very hard the past several days with damaging winds, large hail, and flooding in the western and southern parts of Washington County.

30th & 31st - Very humid high of 88 with a heat index of 98.

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

8th - 48 degrees set a new monthly min temperature.

24th - 68 ties the monthly low max last set on July 22, 1996.

## **Robert Rickell of Hanover 2 S, PA**

Overall, a very cool and cloudy July. Temps below normal and precipitation about an inch above normal at this location, however lesser rain north, and much more south and east, with Southeastern York Co. receiving 5-7 inches on the weekend of the 14th - 16th. As much as 5" fell at some location on the evening of the 14th, only about 12-15 miles east of Hanover, and virtually little here. July averaged cooler than June. There were 3 days the max remained in the 60's.