



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

## SCATTERED BANDS OF THUNDER- STORMS DROP HEAVY FLOODING RAINS

June 2001 began on a cool wet note and ended hot and dry. Overall temperatures averaged above normal. The first week was cool while the balance of the month was warm. Numerous showers and thunderstorms brought above normal precipitation to most of the region. The remnants of Tropical Storm Allison and a cold front brought bands of heavy rains to the metropolitan Washington DC region east through Delaware on the 16th. The summer's first heat wave gripped the region the last four (4) days of the month. Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NNE reported that lightning struck a tree 3/8's of a mile from his station and left a signature line from near the top all the way down the bark to the ground.

### PRECIPITATION

Numerous heavy thunderstorms hit part of the region this month. The heaviest occurred at **Rich Giannola's** station, **Olney 1 S** the evening of the 22nd and the early morning hours of the 23rd. He reported 4.72" of rain fell. According to newspaper reports the storm was focused in the Olney area. Other parts of the county received less rain. Every bridge in and around Olney was under water. The local volunteer fire department reported eight water rescues. Very heavy continuous thunderstorms with flooding rains were also reported by **Herb Close** of **Manchester 1 SW** on the from 6 PM on the 22nd to 2 AM on the 23rd. 4.05 " fell during those 8 hours.

Another heavy thunderstorm hit the Hamstead / Arcadia area in Carroll County according the **Herb Close** of **Manchester 1 SW** on the 12th. Heavy rain along with winds estimated 40 to 65 MPH brought with it white-out conditions and nickel - dime size hail. Many snapped, twisted trees, poles, and power lines from microbursts resulted in some areas were without power for two (2) days.

The remnants of Tropical Storm Allison along with a cold front moving eastward brought heavy training showers to portions of the region on the 16th and the morning of the 17th. Some of the heaviest amounts reported by ACON observers were: **John Zyla** of **Ridge** 3.72", **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** 2.45", **Jug Bay Wetlands** of **Lothian** 2.27", **Jim Canavan** of **Wilmington 4 NNE** 2.12", **Marty Sharrow** of **Owings Mills** 1.78", **Rob Cohen** of **Potomac 4 N** 1.50", **Mike Van Wie** of **Oraville** 1.50". Other amounts by non ACON stations: **Wilmington NWS** 2.78", **Georgetown U of D Res. & Edu Ctr** 2.59" and **Washington National AP NWS** 1.84".

Over 1" amounts fell in St Mary's County on the 1st. **Mike Van Wie** of **Oraville** reported 1.91" while **Clinton Bubb** of **Morganza** reported 1.75". Heavy rains fell during the early morning hours of the 7th in Montgomery, Prince Georges, and Howard Counties. 2" rainfall amounts were common. The heaviest amounts were reported by **Rich Giannola** of **JHU/APL** in **Laurel** 2.60", and **Kevin Shaw** of **Gaithersburg 2 WNW** 2.42".

### TEMPERATURE

June began more like May. Excellent radiation cooling conditions permitted the temperatures to drop into the 40's at most stations on the first. **Eagle Rock** reported a quite chilly 38 degrees. The afternoon temperatures generally only rose to the 60's. The cool spell was short lived. The first 80 degree temperature in over three weeks moved in on the 5th. The balance of the month saw afternoon temperatures mainly in the 80's with some 70's and 90's scattered in.

The first hot period occurred from the 11th to 14th where upper 80's and low 90's were common. The next

### EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	
Smithsburg 2 NE	100
Fallston 2 NW	97
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	
Eagle Rock	38
Parkton 5 SW	41
Fallston 2 NW	41
WARMEST AVG. TEMP.	
Baltimore 2 SE	76.7
Bethesda	75.5
COLDEST AVG. TEMP.	
Eagle Rock	65.5
Hanover 2 S, PA	69.4
MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION	
Olney 1 S	9.28
Manchester 1 SW	7.43
MINIMUM PRECIPITATION	
Bear 2 SW DE	2.81
Baltimore 2 SE	2.89

one occurred after the passage of the remnants of Tropical Storm Allison (17th to the 22nd). Temperature were generally in the mid 80's to lower 90's. The 20th was the hottest with 95 being recorded by **Jim Vaughn** of **Smithsburg 2 NE**, **Tony Scafide** of **Bethesda**, and **Kevin Shaw** of **Gaithersburg 2 WNW**.

The last four days were the hottest of the short summer season so far. Temperatures generally ranged from the low to mid 90's. **Jim Vaughn** of **Smithsburg 2 NE** observed the first 100 degree temperature of the year on the 29th in the region. The following ACON observers reported temperatures above 95: **Lynn Albright** of **Fallston 2 NW** 97 and **Jug Bay Wetlands** of **Lothian** 96.

# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR JUNE 2001

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

16th - Heavy rains 2.12".

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

Warmest June since 1994. Numerous thundershowers / storms in the area - some heavy. Rainfall amounts of 0.25" or more fell on only 3 days - 1st, 16th & 17th.

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

1st - Cold morning 41 degrees. Mid-afternoon sprinkles.

22nd - Heavy late afternoon thunderstorms with vivid lighting into evening. Brief loss of power.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

1st - Increasing clouds and cool. 44 degree morning low.

16th - The remnants of Tropical Storm Allison passed across the region bringing bands of heavy showers which caused areas of localized flooding.

24th - Brilliant sunshine and azure blue skies.

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

19th - Partly Cloudy, hot and low humidity.

24th - Sunny, warm, low humidity.

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

Wettest June on Record 7.43" (13 years of records). Old record was 6.83" set in 1998.

22nd - Record daily rainfall of 3.80". Old record was 2.30" set 6/19/96. Record 24 hour rainfall of 4.05" for the month of June. It fell from 6 PM on the 22nd to 2 AM on the 23rd.

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

7th - Overnight soaking rains - AM clearing.

22nd - PM very intense storms, whiteout conditions for 10 minutes, bridges washed out.

29th - Hot, humid, scattered storms.

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

10th - First 80 degree maximum since 5/12/01.

22nd - Heavier rains north of station caused Gunpower River to overflow its banks by 2 to 3 feet west of Lineboro.

29th - First 90 degree maximum since 6/11/00 - last years only 90 degree temperature.

## **Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock**

1st - Cold morning 38 degrees.

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

22nd - 2.1" of rain 7-10 PM with frequent lightning.

## **Rich Giannola of Olney 1S**

June 2001 (9.28") was the 4th rainiest month in 15 years of records and the most since September 1999.

22nd - Pre-dawn RW = 0.05". TRW began 6:30 PM, turning into TRW+ at 7:05 PM. TRW+ during evening, ending by 11:00 PM brought 4.46" more. Flooding in Olney / Ashton / Brookville areas. TRW- began at 11:45 PM, totaling 0.04" more by midnight.

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

My average daily high temperature, 85.4, set a June record surpassing the previous high mark of 85.3 set back in 1996.

7th - 2.42" of rain set a daily record. It was also the third largest June daily amount.

12th - First 90 degree temperature .

20th, 29th & 30th - 95 degrees each day set a daily record.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

23 consecutive days (5/13-6/4) with only one 80 day. Noticeable transition from cool to very warm during 2nd week. Yet wet conditions continued unabated from mid-May to mid-June wettest month since Sep 1999.

7th - Very heavy AM showers and thunderstorms resulting in the highest daily total of the month, 1.95".

13th - Hot and very humid. Highest heat index of the month, 99 degrees, yet mean wind direction for the day from the east.

22nd - Slow eastward progression of storms. Very dark NW well before onset of rain. Rain finally arrived around sunset and was occasionally heavy. 0.87" in 15 minutes (2115-2130 hours)

## **Bill Hudelson of South Bowie**

7th - Very heavy rain during night, thunderstorm 0510 hours.

13th - Broken clouds, hazy, hot.

20th - Thunderstorm 2300 hours with heavy rain and frequent lightning.

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

1st - Mostly cloudy--afternoon and evening showers and thundershowers--heavy late day.

16th - Daytime downpours(.52") and heavy evening rain (1.83") from the remnants of Tropical Storm Allison.

28th-29th-30th - Hazy, hot, humid.

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

5th - First 80 degree temperature since May 11.

8th - Dense fog overnight and this morning.

14th - Very warm, very hazy and humid.

17th - Sunny, and less humid today but rather warm.

20th - Hot and humid. High of 93. Heat index peaked at 101 degrees. Line of thunderstorms split as they approached this area 4:30 PM - 6 PM with only a few drops of rain here.

## **Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE**

22nd-23rd - 1.70" of rain, most in a 48 hour period since 1.82" fell on Sept 25-26, 2000.

29th - High of 100 was record high for the date and the warmest June day since 101 on June 15, 1994.

## **John Zyla of Ridge**

16th - Rained all day, but almost 3 inches of rain fell from 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM, Total of 3.51 at Midnight.

28th - First 90 degree day of the year. Latest ever for my first 90 degree day!

Precipitation 16.59" below normal since July 1998.

## **Rob Rickell of Hanover 1 S, PA**

12th - Thunderstorm with damaging winds