



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

## EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINS ON DELMARVA DROUGHT CONTINUES IN OTHER AREAS

The month began on a wet note especially in Southern Delaware and the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Snow Hill Maryland recorded 14.31" between midnight and 2 PM on the 1st. Otherwise the month was fairly "quiet". Precipitation was above normal in Southern Delaware, Maryland's lower Eastern Shore, and in extreme Northern Maryland. The Baltimore / Washington region's precipitation was generally close to normal while areas south and east of Washington D.C. were below normal. Temperatures averaged above normal. There was no extreme heat or cold this month.

Two tropical storms moved northeast off the North Carolina coast. The first was Gustav. It moved northeast off of North Carolina's Outer Banks on the 10th and became the season's first hurricane. The cold front which moved through the region after Gustav brought wind gusts to 56 MPH on the 11th. Tropical storm Isidore moved up along the South and North Carolina coast and out to sea on the 26th. Another storm system which moved up west and ahead of Isidore brought heavy soaking rains to the region.

### TEMPERATURE

The extreme heat of this summer did not move into the first month of meteorological autumn. This month's maximum temperatures in the neighborhood of 90 degrees was "normal" for September. Across the entire region there was only a seven (7) degree spread between the "coolest", 86 degrees recorded by **Robert Rickell of Hanover 2 S PA**, and the "hottest", 93 reported by **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**. The warmest temperatures of the month occurred ahead and with the passage of Tropical Storm Gustav.

The coolest temperatures occurred generally around the 12th or 13th and the 24th. **Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock**, which is located in Western Mary-

land's Garrett County, observed 42 on the 12th and 13th. **Robert Rickell of Hanover 2 S PA** observed 42 on the 29th. **Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE** observed the warmest minimum temperature of 58 degrees on the 24th.

Tropical Storm Isidore pulled some high tropical dew points into the region on the 27th. **Joe Terry of Forest Glen** noted that "the evening conditions were as uncomfortable as any summer evening".

### PRECIPITATION

September began on a wet note and ended on a wet note. In between it was extremely dry. All of the moisture which fell during the last week of August and the first day of September was absorbed into the ground or evaporated making the ground quite dry resulting in the worsening of the long term hydrologic drought.

In addition to the extremely heavy rains of 6 to 14+ inches which fell in Lower Delaware and the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland on the 1st amounts of over 1" fell throughout Delaware, the Chesapeake Bay region and in portions of the following Maryland counties: Carroll, Howard, and Montgomery. Light rains fell mid month.

Heavy rains fell on the 22nd in Washington County. The heaviest rains of the month fell on the 26th and the 27th. Amounts of over 2 inches fell in Central Maryland west and north of I-95. **Robert Rickell of Hanover 2 S PA** reported the greatest amount of 3.32" The least amount fell in the region which received the extreme amounts of the 1st.

### MEMBER NEWS

Lynn Albright of Fallston 2 NW was taken to the hospital the morning of November 6. After a whole day of testing, they found her gall bladder to be failing. She will be in the hospital for a few days. Surgery is scheduled for this Friday. (Information received on November 7.)

### EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

#### MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Forest Glen	93
Six (6) Stations	92

#### MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	42
Hanover 2 S PA	42

#### WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	73.6
Ridge	73.0

#### COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Eagle Rock	64.0
Hanover 2 S PA	65.6

#### MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

U of D Georgetown DE	8.68
Hanover 2 S PA	5.12

#### MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Oxon Hill	2.34
Jug Bay Wetlands	2.40

### WEATHER PARTY

### SATURDAY, DEC 7, 2002

**Herb Close of Manchester 1 S Maryland will be holding his annual Weather Party from 3 PM to 1 AM at his home. Please RSVP to Herb by Thanksgiving, November 28th. If you need directions contact Herb or Kevin Shaw.**

# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2002

---

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

Mild, uneventful month. Precipitation again below normal despite two major events (1st & 26th-28th), otherwise very dry. Remnants of Tropical Storm Isidore brought a good soaking rain on the 26th. Tropical storm Gustav passed off the Outer Banks of North Carolina and then moved NE into the Atlantic as a hurricane. It was followed by the passage of the cold front with strong winds on the 11th.

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

**26th** -- Light AM rain becoming moderate in mid afternoon and heavier in evening due to Isidore.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

**8th** -- Overcast & foggy AM, dry afternoon.

**27th** -- Foggy AM, variable clouds humid PM, with evening showers.

**30th** -- Patchy dense AM fog

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

**6th—8th** -- Sunny, warm, low humidity

**9th—10th** -- Partly cloudy, hot, low humidity

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

**1st** -- Rainy morning.

**21st** -- Cloudy, sprinkles, then heavier showers & storms.

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

**27th** -- Heavy rain shower 9 PM—distant thunder north.

## **Lynn Albright of Fallston 2 NW**

**26th** -- Heaviest daily rainfall of the year so far (1.95").

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

**26th** -- 2.03" - soaking rains from the remnants of Tropical Storm Isidore.

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

**26th-28th** -- Remnants of Tropical Storm Isidore brought soaking rains on the 26th & 27th, particularly from the afternoon of the 26th into AM on the 27th (1.69").

SHRA-'s during day on 27th = 0.02". Cold FROPA evening of 27th into early AM on 28th brought 0.56" more.

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

**27th** -- Very humid. Rain after 9 PM (0.60")

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

A somewhat more placid September, with some beneficial rains, albeit on precious few days as has been the pattern over the summer. Very few records broken, first month with above normal precipitation in quite a while. Once again 3 days during the month had most of the rainfall for the month. This time it was 88.3% of our total amount for the month that fell on these 3 days.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

Wet beginning and end to the month, otherwise long stretch of very warm, dry conditions from the 3rd to the 22nd.

**1st** -- Second big rain event (>1") in 5 days. Heaviest rain between 0330 & 0430 hours (~1/2").

**27th** -- Very pronounced warm FROPA at 1500 hours. Dewpoint rose 15 degrees with a sharp increase in wind from the SW. Evening conditions were as uncomfortable as any summer evening. Late evening temperature 79 degrees with a 74 degree dew point.

## **Brian Smith of Oxon Hill**

**10th** --0700 hours --SHRA, the last gasp of a rain band from Hurricane Gustav. 0641-0651hours: as I returned from BWI approaching ADW, I saw the left leg of a brilliant rainbow.

**11th** -- A beautiful day like 9/11/01, free of terrorist attacks but not of tension.

## **Bill Hudelson of South Bowie**

**1st** -- Occasional rains most of the day.

**25th** -- Solar halo 1130 hours.

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

**8th** -- Foggy till mid morning then fair.

**15th** -- Heavy early afternoon showers.

## **John Zyla of Ridge**

Still have a rain deficit of 15.37" inches for the last 13 months.

**19th** -- Light fog.

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

**3rd** -- Mostly sunny very warm and humid today.

**7th** -- Chilly low of 53. sunny warm high of 83.

**19th** -- Rain with some embedded thunderstorms today 9:30 AM—1:30 PM. 0.36" fell.

**22nd** -- Heavier rain this evening with some thunder and downpours of rain. A well needed 0.97" of rain fell by midnight.

**30th** -- Some fog this morning.

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

Precipitation above normal for two consecutive months. The last time this happened was in May & June 2000. This was the first month with over 5" of precipitation since 7.58" fell in September 1999.

**21st** -- 71 degree minimum tied the September high minimum temperature set on several occasions.

**22nd** -- Daily high precipitation set (1.82")

**26th** -- Daily high precipitation set (1.88")