



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

WARM, HUMID LAST MONTH OF SUMMER WITH BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION

August was a quieter month than July. Thunderstorm activity decreased dramatically resulting in precipitation amounts for the region averaging 40% of July. St. Marys County was the only county to receive more precipitation in August than in July. Temperature wise there was not much difference. August averaged less than a half degree cooler but with the humidity it was hard to feel any difference.

The remnants of Hurricane Katrina, which hit Southeast Louisiana and Mississippi as a category 4, moved north-east west of the region on August 30th and 31st. Scattered light showers with amounts of less than a tenth of an inch was common. Some observers did not record any rain. The heaviest showers fell in Carroll County. **Jim Vaughn** of **Smithsburg 2 NE** measured 1.14", and **Max Hutto** of **Smithsburg 1.5 SW** 0.62". These were the only observers who reported more than 1/2 inch.

The remnants of Hurricane Katrina pulled tropical humidity into the region. Overnight temperatures on the night of the 30th failed to drop below the mid to upper 70's in the eastern half of the region. A couple of ACON observers, **Stan Rossen** of **Glenmont 1 NNE** and **Joe Terry** of **Forest Glen**, reported an overnight low of 80 degrees, their warmest overnight minimum temperature in station history.

The first half of the month was the warmest. 90 degree temperatures were common from the 2nd to the 6th. The warmest day during this period was the 4th when temperatures rose to the mid to upper 90's.

Cloudy skies held down maximum temperatures on the 8th and 9th. Showers and thundershowers brought much needed rain to portions of the re-

gion. Heavy rains fell in St. Marys County. **John Zyla** of **Ridge** reported 4.06" and **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** 3.98 inches. Rainfall amounts of over an inch also fell in Anne Arundel County, where **Jeff Stoudt** of **Laurel 2 E** measured 2.02 inches and **Dan Hanson** of **Millersville 1 SE** 1.30 inches, and in Baltimore City where **Joe Manfre** of **Baltimore 2 SE** measured 1.33 inches.

Heat, along with oppressive humidity, returned on the 11th and lasted through the 14th. Temperatures rose to the mid to upper 90's on the 13th and 14th. **Greg Keefer** of **Hagerstown 1 E** and **Manuel Farfan** of **Frederick 4 N** both reported heat indices around 105 degrees.

Showers and thundershowers held down the maximum temperatures to the 70's and lower 80's on the 16th. Amounts varied from less than a quarter of an inch to nearly 2 inches. **John Zyla** of **Ridge** measured 1.89" while **Max Hutto** of **Smithsburg 1.5 SW** measured 1.88".

Three days later on the 19th clouds and showers again held down the maximum temperatures to the 70's. Rainfall amounts were generally in the 1/4 to 1/2 inch range. **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** reported 1.03 inches, the only amount over an inch.

Temperatures the last third of the month failed to break the 90 degree mark. Pleasant conditions with lower humidity moved into the region on the 23rd. **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock** recorded a 48 degree reading the morning of the 23rd. Minimum temperatures the morning of the 25th were in the low to mid 50's. The coolest temperature of 50 occurred at Salisbury's Wicomico County Airport and at the following two ACON sites: **Max Hutto** of **Smithsburg 1.5 SW** and **Dave Leshner** of **Davis 3 SE WV**.

The 27th was cloudy and cool.

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Jug Bay Wetlands | 99 |
| Baltimore 2 SE | 99 |
| Smithsburg 2 NE | 99 |
| Millersville 1SE | 98 |
| Montgomery Village 1 SW | 98 |
| Forest Glen | 98 |

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Eagle Rock | 48 |
| Smithsburg 1.5 SW | 50 |
| Davis 3 SE WV | 50 |

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Baltimore 2 SE | 81.8 |
| Ridge | 79.6 |
| Hollywood | 79.5 |

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Davis 3 SE WV | 67.1 |
| Eagle Rock | 69.7 |
| Frostburg | 70.2 |

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Ridge | 6.64 |
| Hollywood | 6.15 |
| Smithsburg 2 NE | 4.15 |

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| UofD Res Ctr Georgetown DE | 1.14 |
| Owings Mills 2 SE | 1.14 |
| Gaithersburg 2 WNW | 1.23 |

Maximum temperatures were in the upper 60's to mid 70's in Maryland and lower 80's in Delaware. Rainfall amounts on the 27th & 28th generally ranged from less than a quarter of an inch to 1 inch. **Dave Leshner** of **Davis 3 SE WV** reported 1.74" and **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock** 1.49 inches.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR AUGUST 2005

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Hot humid month. First half the hottest. Minimum temperature failed to fall below 70 from the 3rd to the 15th. Yard was brown most of the month due to heat and dry conditions.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

Quiet month with a very warm first half and milder second half. Second driest August in 14 years of records. Thunder occurred on only one day, a record low number of days.

3rd - Thunderstorms all around but only a T of rain here.

12th - Early mountain top fog then sunny, hot and humid.

Greg Latta of Frostburg

Two days with thunder.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

Rainfall totaled near normal and was enough to keep the grass green despite persistent heat.

8th - Repeating afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

28th - Very heavy shower 12 minutes centered 0145 hours.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

8th - Heavy afternoon shower with thunder.

31st - Gusty winds late in the day.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

7th - Early fog lots of clouds and humid.

13th - Sunshine, hot & humid.

19th - Overcast, cooler, early day light rain.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

8th - Variable clouds, hot, humid. PM thunderstorm.

17th - Partly cloudy, warm, less humid.

20th - Partly cloudy, hot, humid.

Herb Close of Manchester 1 SW

Record warm average minimum temperature for August

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

7th - Early sprinkles, partly cloudy, humid

13th - Very hot, partly cloudy.

31st - Partly cloudy, tropical humidity.

Greg Klein of Westminster 5 SSE

August had the biggest above normal temperature departure (+2.8 degrees)

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

Summer 2005 Averages

Average Maximum Temperature 84.4°, +2.6°

Average Minimum Temperature 64.5°, +2.4°

Average Temperature 74.5° +2.5°

Precipitation 17.72", +6.82", wettest on record

Manuel Farfan of Frederick 4 N

14th - Heat index 107°. Hazy, hot, and humid.

27th - Overcast with on/off rain and rain showers all day.

Temp only in the 60s!.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

Two days with thunder.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

12th - 93° Tied station record daily max temperature

13th - 95° Record daily max temperature.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

31st - First AM low of 80 since records began 6/26/1977

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

The tendency for warm summer nights persisted this month with 14 more days of minimums of 70° or greater. The minimum temperature departure of +4.5° was even greater than the departure in July (+3.3°). The most significant difference between July and August was in the precipitation amount. 5.58" less fell in August.

13th & 14th - 75 degree minimum established new monthly record for high minimum temperature breaking the 74 set several times in the past.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Temperatures were very similar to July, but precipitation was quite the opposite. August was very dry with only 15% of the rain total of July. Only 2 thunderstorm days this month.

31st - Tropical air from Katrina kept temperatures near 80 all night (30th into 31st). 80° morning minimum temperature was the warmest AM minimum since station inception.

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

27th - Right leg of a rainbow at 0731.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

9th - Very heavy morning rain, afternoon showers. Total for the day was 3.98".

John Zyla of Ridge

Very quiet month. Most (90%) of the monthly rain came during two storms (on the 9th 4.09" and on the 16th 1.89") Only 0.69 fell during the rest of the month outside of these two storms!!

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

4th - AM haze, very hot, humid.

11th - AM haze, hot, humid, nearby thunderstorms.

25th - Very cool AM, mostly sunny.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

Summer of 2005 average temperature of 75.7° was the third hottest on record. The all time hottest was in 1995 with a 76.0 average and the second hottest was 75.9 set in 1991. Warm overnight lows contributed a lot to this hot summer.

12th & 13th - Sunny, hazy, hot, and very humid. Heat index peaked at 105 each day.

16th - Showers and heavy downpours and thunderstorm this morning between 7 AM & 1 PM with the heaviest rain occurring around 10AM.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

Warm and slightly wetter would describe August at my home-
stead in the hills.

16th - Rainfall of 1.38" surpassed 0.94" set in 2003 for a new daily record.

1st, 5th, 12th, 14th, 20th, & 30th - New maximum minimum temperature set each day.

27th - 70° broke the old daily minimum maximum temperature of 81 set on previous occasions, the last being 2003.

Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA

1st - Foggy AM

Compiled by Gary Gallaher, MD/DE ACON Data Collector and Report Writer, from data received from dedicated observers. Without your observations each month this report will not be possible.