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

HOT, HUMID MONTH WITH VARYING AMOUNTS OF PRECIPITATION ACROSS THE REGION.

July 2006 lived up its' standard of humidity and heat for a Maryland and Delaware summer. There were three periods of high temperatures; first early in the month, second mid month—the peak for the month—and the third end of the month. Cool weather occurred during the second weekend.

Precipitation amounts varied by 9 inches between the wettest and driest stations. Most of it came as a result of thunderstorms, some dropping small hail. The first week was the wettest. Many ACON stations in Anne Arundel, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties observed less than an inch of rain from the 7th to the end of the month.

No tropical storms affected the region this month. The only storm of the month in the Atlantic Basin, Tropical Storm Beryl, passed 115 miles east of Cape Hatteras on the 19th. It moved north northeast and passed over Nantucket on the night of the 20th.

The month started off nice and dry, a relief from the flooding rains of late June. Minimum temperatures on the 1st were generally below 65 while the maximum temperatures were below 85. Heat and humidity returned for the balance of the four day Fourth of July weekend. Thundershowers returned on the second and remained through the sixth. Hail was reported by the following ACON observers on the 2nd: pea size by **Stan Rossen** of **Glenmont 1 NNE**, and marble size by **Brian Smith** of **Oxon Hill**. Numerous reports of one inch plus rains were reported on the 5th and 6th. The following ACON observers reported over 3 inches: **Greg Klein** of **Westminster 5 SSE** 4.24", **Ralph Hartsock** of **Westminster 4 SSE** 4.17", **Dean Day** of **U of D Townsend Farm DE** 3.17" and **Steven Gallaher** of

North St Georges DE 3.07".

The coolest temperatures of the month along with pleasant humidity levels covered the region from the 7th through the 9th. Temperatures in the 40's were common in the Maryland / West Virginia mountains. The coolest, 46, was observed by **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock**. Elsewhere minimums from the mid 50's to lower 60's were common.

July heat and humidity returned on the 10th and remained to the 22nd. The high humidity was briefly broken on the 14th and the 16th. The hottest temperatures of the month occurred on the 17th and 18th, when maximum temperatures generally rose to the mid to upper 90's. The hottest temperatures reported by ACON observers were: 101 degrees by **Joe Manfre** of **Baltimore 2 SE**, 100 degrees by **Dan Hanson** of **Pasadena 3 SW**, and 99 degrees by **David Roth** of **Montgomery Village 1 SW**. Temperatures rose to 90 or above at every station in Maryland and Delaware on the 18th.

The heat was broken late on the 18th by thunderstorms. Some were severe but observed rainfall was less than a half an inch.

Thunderstorms, some with heavy rains, occurred on the 22nd. The heaviest rains fell in Delaware. Heavy amounts were also scattered in Anne Arundel and Montgomery Counties. 3.50" was observed at the **U of D Townsend Farm DE** by **Dean Day**, and 2.34" by **Dan Hanson** of **Pasadena 3 SW**.

John Zyla of **Ridge** reported pea size hail during a thunderstorm on the evening of the 27th.

Hot, humid conditions with temperatures generally in the low to mid 90's returned on the 27th. The heat continued into the first week of August.

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Baltimore 2 SE	101
Pasadena 3 SW	100
Mont Village 1SW	99

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock	46
Davis 3 SE WW	46
Frostburg	49

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	83.3
Mont Village 1 SW	80.6
Annapolis 2 N	80.2
Ridge	80.2

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WW	66.1
Eagle Rock	70.2
Frostburg	70.4

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

U of D Townsend Fm DE	10.63
N St Georges DE	7.68
Ridge	6.81

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Mont Village 1 SW	1.29
Potomac 4 N	1.57
Bethesda	1.69

Errata: 2006 total precipitation for some stations in May and June reports are incomplete. Monthly summaries will be updated and placed on the Web site. Thanks to **Stan Rossen** for finding the error.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR JULY 2006

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Numerous thunderstorms (10 days) throughout the month, some with brief heavy downpours. Humid month.

6th - Only day this month where the maximum temperature failed to rise to 80 or above.

12th - Heavy thunderstorm 4:30-4:45 PM. Visibility less than 1/4 mile due to rain.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

Despite numerous showers and thunderstorms precipitation was below normal. 20 days had measurable rainfall, which is a July record, yet it was the second driest July in 15 years of record. July's mean temp was the warmest since 1999.

30th - 95 degrees, the warmest since 7/04/2002.

Dave Bryant of Annapolis 2 N

2nd - Severe thunderstorm - peak @ 6:33 PM - frequent cloud to ground lightning, heavy rain.

4th - Severe thunderstorm 5:30 - 6:15 PM. Much cloud to ground lightning. Brief heavy rain.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

Only a few light rainfalls dampened the neighborhood after the 6th. Ground became quite dry towards month's end. Supplemental watering was needed to prevent annuals from wilting away.

5th - Occasional light rain except heavy 2300-2350.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

Growing conditions good but could use more rain.

13th - Heavy rain, thunder and lightning @ 2:30—2:55 PM. Gutters overflowed.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

10 days with thunder.

8th - Sunshine and pleasant.

18th - Blazing sunshine and hot!

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

17th - Partly cloudy, very hot 101 degrees.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

5th & 6th - Heavy night of the 5th & morning of the 6th rains. 4.17"

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

7th - Partly cloudy and pleasant. High barometer 30.30".

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

Seven days of fog and four days with thunder.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

4 days with thunder.

2nd - Gusty thunderstorm 4:30 PM.

Rich Giannola of Olney 1 S

5th 6th— SHRA began in the afternoon of the 5th, ending by 7 PM. 0.08" fell. Overnight SHRA began ~ 10 PM, became heavy at 11 PM and continued into the morning of the 6th. An additional 2.15" fell.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

2.16" of the 2.70" precipitation fell during the first 6 days.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

A particularly oppressive hot, muggy period near the end of the month helped set several high minimum temperature records. 16 hazy days. Average temperatures about 3 degrees above normal, while precipitation was 54% of normal.

6th - Daily record low maximum temperature of 76.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Hot and humid. 19 days 90 or above. First week very wet then a reversal to very dry the rest of the month.

6th - More heavy rain. Previous two week total of over 14".

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

2nd - +TSRA 1730 - 1830. :Neighbors said that there was marble size hail near the start. A couple trees and several large limbs blown down onto power lines.

12th - Series of +TSRA 1600 - 1900.

28th - Brief +SHRA 1410-1420. Single clap of thunder 1536.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

8 days of thunder.

15th - Late day thunderstorm.

John Zyla of Ridge

27th - Marble size hail fell for about 5 minutes from 6:30 to 6:35 PM during an intense thunderstorm which lasted from 6:23 to 6:38 PM, 0.34" fell. The last time we had hail was 4 1/2 years ago on April 3, 2002 which was pea size.

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

5th - Rain, heavy in evening, not as warm.

18th - Partly cloudy, hot, humid. Thunderstorms in the area, windy.

30th & 31st - Hazy, hot, and humid.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

18th - Mostly sunny, hot and humid. Severe thunderstorms in the area between 5 PM and 7 PM. At this station 0.09" of rain fell and winds gusted to 28 MPH. Some very nearby areas got hit hard with high winds resulting with damage to trees, power lines, etc. Also flooding, hail, and severe lightning. Many power outages in the area.

28th - Hazy, warm, and humid. High 85 degrees. A quick intense thundershower around noon today brought 0.13" of rain, and strong winds to 40 mph. Some minor wind damage was reported.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

New daily high minimum temperature set on the 12th, 13th, 28th, 30th, and 31st.

Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA

7th - 78 degree max temperature - Awesome weather!

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.