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

DRY CONDITIONS — NEAR NORMAL TEMPS — HOT MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

The last month of the Spring of 2006 was a fairly quiet one. Thunderstorm activity was limited to one day with heavy rain and a few others with only light rains in most regions. Almost all of the months precipitation fell during the middle of the month - from the 11th to the 20th. During this period parts of New England saw record rains and severe flooding.

The mornings of the 1st and 2nd started off unseasonably cool. Some scattered light frost was observed. Many locations saw their coldest temperatures of the month during this period. The 2nd through the 6th was nice and warm. Maximum temperatures were in the 70's and lower 80's. The next time the temperatures rose to the 80 degree mark was on the 27th, the beginning of the long Memorial Day Weekend.

The first rains of the month fell on the 7th and 8th as a low pressure system moved off the coast south of the region. Amounts were generally less than a quarter of an inch. The heaviest amounts were reported in St Marys and Wicomico Counties. **John Zyla** of **Ridge** observed 1.25", **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** 0.67". Further north in Anne Arundel County **Dave Bryant** of **Annapolis 2N** observed 0.63".

The heaviest precipitation event of the month occurred the evening of the 11th and early on the 12th. A cold front accompanied by heavy thunderstorms moved across the region. Rainfall amounts of an inch or more was common. The heaviest amounts fell in Central Maryland north of Washington DC north to the Pennsylvania line. **Bryon Lawrence** of **Frederick 3 WNW** reported 1.83", **Brian Smith** of **Oxon Hill 1.66"**, **Marty Sharrow** of **Owings Mills**

1.66". Lighter amounts fell in Delaware. A cut off Low moved slowly eastwards over the Great Lakes from the 12th to the 16th. Also affecting the region was a disturbance which moved by on the 17th, a cold front on the 18th, and a trough on the 19th. Rain fell at many stations during this 9 day period. Most of the rains after the 12th was light. Western Maryland was the only region to report an inch or more of rain. This occurred around the 15th. **Greg Latta** of **Frostburg** reported 1.72" (15th & 16th), and **Nate Mullins** of **LaVale** 1.60" (14th & 15th).

The mornings of the 21st through the 24th were unseasonably cool. Temperatures fell into the 30's at many non-urban locations on at least one of these days.

Dry conditions persisted during the last third of the month. Light rains totaling less than two tenths of an inch fell on the 26th. **Dave Leshner** of **Davis 3 SE WV** reported 1.27" at his 0700 obs on the 27th.

The first heat of 2006 moved into the region on the 28th. Temperatures rose to the upper 80's and lower 90's on Memorial Day, the 29th. The hottest day was the 30th. Temperatures were generally in the lower to mid 90's. Some ACON observers set station all time May temperatures records: **Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4NE 92°**, **Kevin Shaw** of **Gaithersburg 2 WNW 97°**, and **Joe Terry** of **Forest Glen 97°**. May went out on the 31st with temperatures around 90 and dry.

Thunderstorms, some intense, moved through portions of Frederick and Washington Counties during the pre-dawn hours of the 31st. Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1E reported intense lightning and some wind damage around

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Baltimore 2 SE	97
Frederick 3 WNW	97
Gaithersburg 2 WNW	97
Forest Glen	97

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 Se WV	30
Eagle Rock	30
Frostburg	32

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	66.9
Ridge	65.8

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WV	51.1
Eagle Rock	54.6
Frostburg	55.3

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Frostburg	3.51
Frederick 3 WNW	3.15

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

N. St Georges DE	1.10
UofD Townsend 4W DE	1.15

MAXIMUM SNOWFALL

Davis 3 SE WV	0.3
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Hagerstown. Otherwise May went out quietly with temperatures around 90 and dry conditions.

Spring 2006 was warm and dry. March saw record dryness. April was the wettest month. Washington NWS (5.36") recorded its 5th driest spring. ACON observers **Stan Rossen** of **Glenmont 1 NNE** (5.22"), **Gary Gallaher** of **Bear 2 SW DE** (5.28"), and **Nate Mullins** of **LaVale** (7.00") reported their driest spring on record.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR MAY 2006

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Almost all of the months rain fell in small amounts from the 11th to the 21st. Fourth driest May out of 38. No daily record temperatures or precipitation this month.

1st - Scattered light frost.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

May was the fourth driest in 15 years of records. The spring rainfall of 7.00" is the driest in station history.

14th - Thunderstorm with brief heavy rain around 4 PM continuing through early evening, 0.25" fell.

23rd - Light AM frost, one of the latest in station records.

31st - Hot and humid. Big thunderstorms all around station.

Dave Bryant of Annapolis 2 N

11th - PM thunderstorms.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

11th - Intense evening thunderstorm and few other showers. 1.10" in 20 minutes 1906 - 1926 EST.

27th - Mid day sprinkle.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

3rd - Hazy morning.

11th - Heavy showers after obs.

31st - Sunny and breezy.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

15th - Mostly cloudy, cool, with showers.

26th - Dense AM fog, partly sunny and humid.

30th - Brilliant sunshine and hot.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

29th & 30th - Partly cloudy, hot and humid.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

Crops only fair at the end of the month. Too hot too early. Only 0.09" of rain fell during the last two weeks.

7th - Clear early then virga by observation.

20th - MMTS installed at 4 PM.

26th - Visibility zero at 6 AM.

30th - 92 degrees—Record May temp for station (25 yrs)

Ray Muller of Westminster City

Drought continues for area.

11th - Thunderstorm with heavy rain showers, cloud to cloud lightning after obs.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

15th - Fog and thunder

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

Driest spring (5.22") in 30 years of records. Previous record dry was 6.18" in 1986.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

5th - Daily record high minimum temperature of 62.

8th - Daily record low maximum temperature of 55

28th—31st - Daily maximum temperature record set each day, 89, 94, 97, 92.

30th - 97 set a new May maximum temperature. Old record was 96 set on 5/8/2000.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

11th - First good rain in almost 3 weeks. Heavy shower with a little thunder early evening.

30th - Very hot. Max temp of 97 ties the highest may maximum temperature since station inception set on 5/20/1996. At the same time the dew points reached into the 70's.

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

27th - Heavy dew

29th - Summer, at last! Went from cool and disagreeable to triple-H.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

11th - Mostly cloudy, showers, thunderstorm. Evening tornado watch.

14th - Afternoon thunderstorm.

29th - AM thin fog.

John Zyla of Ridge

11th, 14th, & 19th - Thunder

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

7th - Cold AM, 34 degrees. PM rain showers.

31st - Overnight intense thunderstorms with high winds, heavy rain.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

3rd - Very light morning showers.

11th - Cloudy cool windy and misty today with a few light showers. Heavier downpours this evening especially between 6-7 PM with over a half inch in a short time.

30th - Record high temperature of 95. Old record was 94 set in 1991.

31st - Intense round of thunderstorms overnight moved down from NNE. Intense frequent lightning and wind gusts to 43 MPH. Some wind damage reported in the area.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

Precipitation below normal for the fifth month out of the past six.

6th - Daily record low minimum temperature of 38.

30th - Max temp of 96 set a new daily high surpassing the previous high of 93 set in 1991. It was also the second highest May temperature on record.

Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA

1st - Awesome weather!

Dave Leshner of Davis 3 SE WV

20th - 0.3" of snow.

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.