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

FIRST NORTHEASTER OF THE SEASON MID MONTH FROST AND FREEZE

For the second consecutive month temperatures averaged below normal while precipitation averaged above normal. The only measurable snow fell in the Western Maryland mountains. Temperatures rose into the lower 80's early in the month then frost and freezing temperatures occurred two weeks later. Three evenly spread storms each brought rainfall amounts of one inch or more.

The month began on a warm note. Temperatures rose from near 70 on the first to the low to mid 80's on the 4th. The only observers east of the mountains where the temperature failed to reach 80 were **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE** and **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills** where the maximum only rose to 79 and **Greg Klein of Westminster 5 SSE** who observed 77 degrees.

The first northeaster of the season brought wind and rain on the 6th. This northeaster moved south instead of north along the Atlantic coast. Winds gusted to gale force along the coast. Rainfall amounts of 2 inches or more fell from the Washington DC metropolitan area east to southern Delaware and southwards into Virginia. The heaviest storm amounts totals reported by ACON observers was 4.07" by **John Zyla of Ridge**, 3.54" by **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**, and 2.48" by **Karyn Molines of Jug Bay Wetlands**.

Temperatures rebounded to the mid 70's to 80 degrees on the 10th. **Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE** and **Joe Terry of Forest Glen** each reported 82. 80 degree temperatures was recorded by ACON observers in **St Georges DE**, **Pasadena 3 SW**, **Lothian**, **Laurel 2E**, **Bryan Road 2 ESE**, **Laurel JHU/APL**, **Potomac 4N**, **Oxon Hill**, **Hollywood**, and **Smithsburg 2 NE**. This was the last time in 2006 that the thermometer rose to the 80 degree mark.

A cold front brought wind and

falling temperatures during the PM hours of the 12th. **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E** reported a wind gust of 42MPH. The temperature at **Bear 2 SW DE** fell from 71° at 1:15 PM on the 12th to 31° at 7:30 AM on the 13th.

Temperatures fell to freezing or below at many stations from the 13th to 16th. To have a four day stretch of freezing temperatures during mid October is very unusual. To verify this point **Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E** noted in his summary for his Reading PA station that this was a new longest streak of that kind before the midpoint of October.

The second major precipitation event occurred on the 17th. One inch plus amounts were reported across the Northern portions of Delaware and Maryland. The heaviest amounts fell in Allegany and Washington Counties where **Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW** reported 1.72", **Nate Mullins of LaVale** 1.60", **Greg Latta of Frostburg** 1.52", and **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1E** 1.39".

One quarter to three quarters inches of rain fell on the morning of 20th. During the afternoon winds gusted to over 40 MPH and the temperatures fell from the mid 60's to the lower 40's by midnight. **Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW DE** reported peak wind gust of 49 MPH, **Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE** 48 MPH, **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E** 45 MPH, and **Joe Terry of Forest Glen** 40 MPH.

Minimum temperatures fell into the 30's and lower 40's from the 21st to the 27th. The first measurable snow of the season fell on the 23rd in the Maryland mountains.

The third and last major storm event occurred on the 27th and 28th. One and a half to two inch rainfall amounts were common. The heaviest amounts fell in portions of New Castle County DE, and Carroll County Maryland. **Ralph Hartsock**

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Jug Bay Wetlands	87
Baltimore 2 SE	85
Bryans Head 2 ESE	85
Potomac 4 N	85
Glenmont 1 NNE	85
Forest Glen	85

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 SE WV	21
Eagle Rock	24
Parkton 5 SW	26

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Ridge	59.2
Annapolis 2 N	58.4

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WV	44.9
Eagle Rock	47.1

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Davis 3 SE WV	7.26
Ridge	6.50
Laurel 2 E	5.97

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Parkton 5 SW	3.66
LaVale	3.75

MAXIMUM SNOWFALL

Eagle Rock	4.5
Davis 3 SE WV	4.0
Frostburg	1.3

of **Westminster 4 SSE** reported 2.20" and **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE** 2.14". Very windy conditions followed the storm. **Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE** reported 58 MPH, **Rich Giannola of JHU/APL** 53 MPH, **Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE** 49 MPH, **Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 NNE** and **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E** both 47 MPH.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR OCTOBER 2006

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Second consecutive month with below normal temperatures. Three major storm events. Winds gusted to over 30 mph on 6 out of the last 12 days. Freezing temperatures occurred on four consecutive days from the 13th to the 16th.

Greg Latta of Frostburg

5th & 29th - Thunder in the 24 hours ending at 7 AM.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

3rd - Dense early fog then cleared and became partly cloudy and mild.

17th - Light rain began overnight and became moderate to heavy during the morning hours. Rain ended by 2 PM.

14th - 15th - 16th - AM frost.

28th - Thunder-snow in nearby mountain locations.

Dave Bryant of Annapolis 2 N

6th - Rain began AM, moderate rain all day.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

13th to 16th - Four consecutive near freezing minimum temperatures seemed too early for chill that persistent.

28th - Rain, heavy at times, till daybreak.

Al Kreinik of Parkton 5 SW

3rd - Sunny AM, clouds late afternoon.

28th - Damaging winds.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

11th - Low overcast, humid, and not as warm as yesterday.

13th - First frost of the season.

29th - Abundant sunshine, windy, and cool.

30th - Frosty start, then sunny and milder.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

1st - AM light rain.

24th - Variable clouds, windy, and cool.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

13th - First freeze, clear and cold.

17th - Rain, moderate to heavy.

28th - Heavy rain early, clearing and windy.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

13th - Moderate killing frost.

28th - AM R+ shower with soft hail (graupel) at observation (6PM).

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

13th - Heavy frost, 1st frost of the season.

24th & 29th - 2" of snow on the ground—greatest for the month.

Rich Giannola of JHU/APL

20th - Wind gust of 45 mph from W at 2:06 PM.

28th - Months minimum barometric pressure 29.16".

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

3rd - All time station October maximum temperature of 85.

13th - First frost on car windows and rooftops.

Rich Giannola of Olney 1 S

19th & 20th - RA began 7:45 PM on the 19th, ending in the morning of the 20th. Clearing and becoming very windy in the afternoon.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

11th - High thin overcast with partial lunar corona.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

Cool, wet month.

6th - Daily rainfall record set.

13th to 15th - Sub freezing temperatures (30, 29, 29). My backyard garden really never did die off until well into November.

28th - Daily rainfall record set.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Second wet month in a row with fairly even rain distribution through out the month. Large temperature variability, generally cold with 12 mins in the 30's.

12th - Very brief thunderstorm very early AM. Turning much colder late.

13th - First freeze. 31° minimum is the second earliest for a temperature this low in station history (12 years).

28th - Dew points as high as 66 in AM. Late AM FROPA followed by falling temperatures and a peak wind gust of 40 MPH, which is the highest since April 7, 2006.

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

1st - Rainbow at 1645 hours.

5th - Max temperature in predawn. Daytime max 67,

14th - Widespread light frost.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

6th - Heavy rain and windy. 36 MPH peak gust.

15th - Frosty morning.

28th - Early AM rain, then fair, windy at times.

John Zyla of Ridge

6th - 3.91" of rain. Peak wind gust 27 from NE.

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

4th - Distant thunder.

20th - Overnight rain, AM light fog, cloudy, temperatures falling throughout day, very windy.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

4th - Showers late this evening with some thunder and lightning.

13th - First frost / freeze of the season which is average date for the first freeze.

20th - Overnight rain. Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy and windy with falling temps in to the 40's/ Strong WNW winds gusting to 45 MPH.

28th - Strong W winds gusting to 43 MPH. Some wind damage reported in the area.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

3rd - Max temp of 83 ties the daily record.

6th - Max temp of 54 set a new minimum max daily temp.

17th & 28th - New daily rainfall records.

Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA

15th - Frosty morning, cool finish.

Dave Leshner of Davis 3 SE WV

25th - Max snow on ground for month of 3".

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.