



<http://www.jhuapl.edu/weather/education/ACONdata.html>

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

## WARM MONTH - DRIEST MAY SINCE 1991 SCATTERED SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS

May will be remembered by its dryness and warmth. After a wet April rainfall amounts were far below normal. The driest area was clustered around Washington DC. The coldest temperatures occurred on the 7th and 8th while the warmest the last week of the month. The only freezing temperature observed occurred on Maryland's Eastern Shore at Salisbury Wicomico County Airport. Memorial Day weekend was quite warm with scattered thunderstorms some of which reached severe level on Sunday the 27th.

May began on a warm note with the warmest in Central and Western Maryland. A few scattered light showers fell. The heaviest measured was 0.55" by **John Zyla** of **Ridge** on the 2nd. More light rains fell on the 5th from the Washington DC region east and south. The heaviest rains fell in St. Marys County where **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** reported 0.63" and **John Zyla** of **Ridge** 0.51".

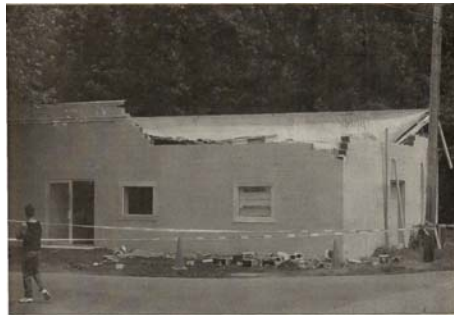
The 6th was cooler and breezy. Maximum temperatures were generally in the 60 to 65 degree range. Temperatures fell into the 30's on the mornings of the 7th and 8th at many cooler locations. No freezing temperatures were reported. Scattered light frost was reported by some ACON observers from Northern Delaware westwards through Northern Maryland.

A cold front stalled over the region on the 12th. Scattered showers and thundershowers occurred during the evening. Amounts were fairly light with amounts generally less than a half an inch. **Joe Manfre** of **Baltimore 2 SE** reported 0.74".

The 13th was cooler. Northerly winds gusted into the 20's while temperatures cooled down to around 70°.

A strong cold front moved east through the region the afternoon of the 16th. It brought showers and thunder-

storms, some severe. Rainfall amounts varied from less than a tenth of an inch to over an inch. The heaviest rains fell in Charles County Maryland and New Castle County Delaware. **Marty Brumback** of **Bryans Road 2 ESE** reported 1.74" while **Gary Gallaher** of **Bear 2 SW DE** 0.96". A severe thunderstorm moved through Charles County. **Marty Brumback** of **Bryans Road 2 ESE** reported a 47 MPH gust along with heavy rains. (See Marty's complete report on the Observer Comment Page). The winds caved in a portion of the Charles County Sheriff's District 2 station roof in Indian Head. See photo below.



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Photo supplied by Marty Brumback

Cooler temperatures moved in following the front. Normal to below normal temperatures remained through the 24th.

The first summer like heat began on the 25th and peaked on the 26th with readings in the upper 80's to lower 90's. **Joe Manfre** of **Baltimore 2 SE** reported 96°.

Isolated thunderstorms occurred on the afternoon of the 26th. As typical for the month, most amounts were generally light. There was a pocket of heavy rains and with strong winds Over an inch fell in parts of Carroll County. **Ray Muller** of **Westminster City** reported 1.50" and **Herb Close** of **Manchester 1 S** 1.09".

### EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

#### MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Baltimore 2 SE	96
Montgomery Village 1SW	93
Glenmont 1 NNE	93

#### MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 SE WV	33
LaVale	34
Millers 4 NE	34
Eagle Rock	34
Smithsburg 1.5 SW	34

#### WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	71.8
Oxon Hill	68.3

#### COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WV	57.3
Eagle Rock	58.8
Frostburg	60.4

#### MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Davis 3 SE WV	3.09
Westminster City	2.79
Bryans Road 2 ESE	2.44

#### MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

UofD Harbeson 8 S DE	0.47
Laurel JHU/APL	0.48

**Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4 NE** and **Al Kreinik** of **Parkton 5 SW** in Northwestern Baltimore County both lost power for 12 hours.

Memorial Day (the 28th) was still warm but a little cooler. 90 degree temperatures returned to part of the region for the 30th and 31st. Many observers reported browning lawns by month's end.

# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR MAY 2007

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

Warm days, cool nights. All of the rain fell mid month within a one week period. Sunny month - only two cloudy days.

## **Nate Mullins of LaVale**

May was the second warmest and the driest. The average maximum temperature was the warmest on record. Measurable rain fell on only 5 days. Thunderstorms were few.

**18th** - A period of much needed steady rain began this morning around 6 AM and lasted until 3 PM.

**31st** - Thunder and gusty winds around 5 PM but no rain. Strong storms all around us again.

## **Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E**

May was unusually dry and probably was the driest May in a long time. Most of the rainfall was convective in nature and of short duration. The combination of increasing heat with skimpy rainfall resulted in soft green grass turning brown and straw-like by month's end.

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

**28th** - Evening thunderstorm. Power out for approximately 12 hours.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

May was one of the driest Mays on record for my station. Records date back to 1966. The ground is hard as a rock. Some of the vegetation was showing signs of stress at month end.

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

**7th** - Variable clouds, cool, breezy in the afternoon.

**27th** - Hot, with moderate humidity. Evening light showers and thunderstorms.

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

**7th** - Frosty morning. Sunny and cooler.

**27th** - Hot, humid. Late severe thunderstorms.

**31st** - Sunny, hot.

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

Driest May since 1991.

**7th** - AM frost.

**19th** - Wind squall at 5:11 PM 59 MPH gust from NNW.

**27th** - 0.70" of rain fell in 15 minutes. Lightning knocked the Heathkit and Nimbus MMTS sensors out at 7:45 PM. Power out for 12 hours.

## **Marty Brumback of Bryans Road 2 ESE**

**16th** - At approximately 1640 a rapidly moving shelf cloud darkened the station. Strong winds and rains occurred shortly thereafter. At 1646 a 46 MPH gust was recorded. At 1655 torrential downpours and strong winds bent 40 to 50 foot fully leafed trees 30 to 40 degrees side to side. Frequent CGCC lightning. The air was filled with leaf cluster ripped from trees; at times the clusters were moving in different directions.

## **Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock**

**17th & 29th** - Thunder

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

Driest May on record.

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

**20th** - Few large raindrops fell for about 1 minute around 2 PM totaled a Trace.

**27th** - Gusty winds 6:30 PM. Thunderstorm (TSRA) 6:40 PM, rain ending by 8:00 PM.

## **Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE**

Driest May in station history. Old record of 0.92" was set in 1991.

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

Driest May in my 29 years that records have been observed here. Old record was 1.19" set in 1991. May was also the third warmest behind 1991 and 2004. Five of the last seven days registered 90 degrees or greater.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

No major rain events, mostly brief showers and thunderstorms. Quite a few cool days early and mid month, then ending hot.

**16th** - Late afternoon thunderstorm with gusty winds to 36 MPH and brief heavy rain. 0.40" fell in 5 minutes.

**27th** - Two PM thunderstorms. Dew point reached 75° between the storms.

## **Brian Smith of Oxon Hill**

**12th** - +TSRA 2100 to 2145 hours.

**27th** - Light thunderstorm (-TSRA) 1830 to 1900 with lots of lightning but little rain.

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

**5th** - Rainy afternoon and evening.

**16th** - Late day and evening thundershowers.

## **John Zyla of Ridge**

No rain fell during the last 13 days.

## **Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW**

**10th** - AM light fog, warm, PM nearby thunderstorms, windy, rain heavy at times.

**30th** - Hot, sunny, and breezy.

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

**7th** - A touch of frost in some places.

**10th** - Showers and thundershowers 8 PM to midnight. Storms were heavier just of the north of the PA line.

**27th** - Thunderstorms in the area between 5:30 PM and 8 PM. Some strong winds to 43 MPH around 5:30 PM.

**29th** - 100% sunshine.

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

**10th** - 65° minimum set a new daily high minimum surpassing 61 set in 2004.

## **Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA**

Too dry this month.

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.