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

## MID MONTH HEAT WAVE FEWER THUNDERSTORMS THAN IN JUNE

July's temperatures averaged above normal but as for Julys go it could have been much worse. Several observers remarked that this was an uneventful month. Precipitation, which fell on around a dozen days, was quite variable but overall averaged slightly below normal. No tropical systems affected the region. Most of the rainfall came via thunderstorms, a few with hail. The most widespread thunderstorm outbreak occurred on the 23rd.

The month began with pleasant temperatures and humidity. The first 90 degree temperatures occurred on the 3rd. The 4th of July Holiday was cloudy with showers and a few thundershowers.

Warm humid conditions along with some showers occurred from the 4th to the 9th. Daily amounts were generally less than a quarter of an inch. On the 6th thunderstorms dumped 2 3/4" in portions of Sussex County Delaware. One inch plus amounts also fell on the 5th at **Hagerstown 1E** and on the 6th at **Laurel JHU/APL, and Ridge**.

Showers and thunderstorms on the 13th and 14th were the heaviest in central Maryland. In Carroll County **Greg Klein of Westminster 5 SSE** reported 2.24" and **Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE** 2.23".

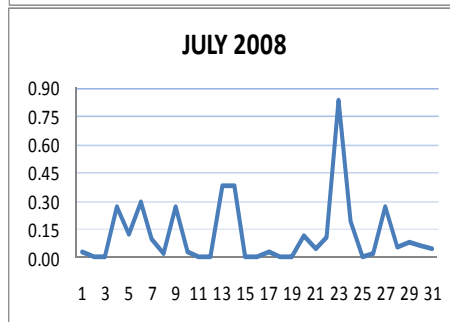
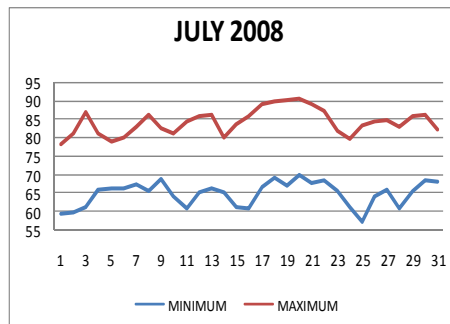
The month's only heat wave occurred from the 16th to the 22nd. Maximum temperatures were generally in the lower to middle 90's. The maximum of 97° was reported by **David Roth of Montgomery Village 1SW** and at **Jug Bay Wetlands**. Minimum temperatures were generally in the lower 70's in urban areas and in the upper 60's in rural areas.

The heaviest thunderstorms of the month occurred on the 23rd into the morning of the 24th. Two inch plus amounts were common in portions of New Castle County Delaware, and in Anne Arundel, St. Marys, and Washington Counties in Maryland. **John Zyla of Ridge** reported 3.14", **Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW DE**, 2.62",

**Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E** 2.29", **Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE** 2.08" with 3/4" hail, and **Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW** 2.06". **Brian Smith** of Oxon Hill reported 3.26" from the 21st to the 24th while he was away.

A welcome break from the humidity and heat which moved in during the day of the 24th brought with it the coolest temperatures of the month the morning of the 25th at many locations.

Thunderstorms returned on the 26th, 27th and the 30th. **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E** reported pea size hail the evening of the 26th. On the 27th **Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 1 E** reported pea size hail and **Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW DE** 3/4" hail. Nate Mullins of LaVale reported a possible tornado in Garrett County on the 30th.



### ACON MD/DE Network

Daily average temperatures and precipitation based on observation times, not calendar days.

### EXTREMES REPORTED BY

#### ACON OBSERVERS

##### MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Montgomery Village 1 SW	97
Jug Bay Wetlands	97
Newark DEOS, DE	96
Baltimore 2 SE	96
Glenmont 1 NNE	96

##### MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 SE, WV	49
Eagle Rock	52
Frostburg	53

##### WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 3 SE	80.8
Montgomery Village 1 SW	79.1
Oxon Hill	78.5

##### COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE, WV	64.5
Frostburg	68.9
Eagle Rock	70.3

##### MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Ridge	6.09
Hagerstown 1 E	5.81
Bear 2 SW, DE	5.75

##### MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Glenmont 1 NNE	2.18
Potomac 4 N	2.30
Norbeck 1 S	2.50

### NEW MEMBER

**Ron Berger of Norbeck 1 S**, near Silver Spring in Montgomery County, has joined the network. Ron is also a member of Brian Smith's WBCR network. Lets all welcome him.

# OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR JULY 2008

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

Yards browned during the first three weeks. They began to green up after the rains of the 20th.

**23rd** - Heavy thunderstorms midnight to 3 AM and again 6 PM to 9 PM. During the evening severe storm lightning struck a chimney 8 houses south of me. It also damaged the electronics in two of my anemometers.

**27th** - 3/4" hail 2:22PM to 2:28 PM. No damage occurred.

## **Nate Mullins of LaVale**

**30th** - A tornado warning was issued for the SW part of the county from a severe cell that produced several funnel clouds in southwest PA and a possible tornado in nearby Garrett Co. MD in the Friendsville and Accident areas. Although no major damage was reported in Allegany Co., a funnel cloud was sighted again just south of Fort Ashby, WV to our south. On a side note, the 0.69" of rain today continued the trend of wet July 30th's. From 1992-2008, July 30 has statistically been the wettest day of the year with an average of 0.45".

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

**27th** - A midday storm brought hail pea- to penny-size, gusts near damaging force, vivid lightning, and loud-booming thunder but only a moderate amount of rain (0.39) as only this storm cell's southern edge clipped this neighborhood.

## **Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills**

**8th** - Sun, scattered afternoon clouds, hot, humid.

**23rd** - Lots of clouds, humid, afternoon storms.

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

**1st** - Partly cloudy, warm, pleasant humidity.

**9th** - PM showers and thunderstorms.

**30th** - Hot, humid, thunder and lightning.

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

**9th** - PM heavy thunderstorm.

**14th** - Heavy overnight soaking rain.

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

Near normal temperatures and precipitation with no extremes in weather. Generally good growing conditions.

**27th** - Heavy afternoon thundershower.

## **Ray Muller of Westminster City**

**6th** - Dense fog, visibility 1/4 mile.

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

My hopes came true! July temperatures were, mercifully, cooler than average at this station! A 7-day heat wave occurred, however, from July 16-22 when the maximum temps did not drop below 91°. On the other hand, they did not go above 95°, so I will call it the "virtual" heat wave of July 2008. Precipitation was slightly (0.32") below average but the frequency of rainfall was high: precipitation fell on 15 of 31 days.

## **Eric Glass of Emmitsburg 2 SE**

**9th** - Heavy low clouds, humid and warmer.

**16th** - Clear, bright, sunny and cool. Light winds.

## **Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock**

10 days with thunder.

## **Rich Giannola of JHU/APL**

**9th** - -SHRA -7:00AM = T. TSRA in early evening = 0.37". Peak wind gust = 41 mph from WSW at 6:31PM.

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

An unremarkable month. Temperature was zero departure from my long term normal, precipitation down 1.5". No severe weather.

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

**23rd-24th** - Pre-dawn -SHRA on 23rd = 0.01". Mid-afternoon -SHRA = 0.01". TS began 8:15PM. TSRA began 8:50PM. -SHRA = 0.01". Rain = 0.03" more by 9:40PM. SHRA continued into 24th and ended by dawn = 0.51" more. Morning FG on 24th.

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

Month was drier (-1.77") and warmer (+1.7°) from normal. It was not a month of extremes. A hot period mid month with 7 straight days of 90° or higher.

**4th** - Mostly cloudy, rain showers late afternoon, early evening.

## **Joe Terry of Forest Glen**

**22nd** - Surprise late AM thunderstorm with brief heavy rain. Nice mammatus overhead at around 1100 after storm had passed.

**27th** - Two afternoon thunderstorms with quite a bit of thunder and lightning. Very large raindrops but never had a heavy rate of rainfall. 0.23 from early afternoon storm and 0.08 from late afternoon storm.

## **Brian Smith of Oxon Hill**

**19th** - MMTS installed this afternoon. Cotton shelter temps will be backup.

## **Floyd Abell of Hollywood**

**7th** - Thunderstorm before dawn.

**23rd** - Late day and evening thunderstorms, heavy rain.

**27th** - Afternoon thunderstorm, heavy rain.

## **John Zyla of Ridge**

**23rd** - Thunderstorm 5:27-8:15 PM. 1.79" hail at 5:53PM.

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

**9th** - Intermittent AM / PM showers, windy.

**29th** - AM haze, clearing to mostly sunny, very warm.

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

**26th** - Thunderstorm around 5 PM with 0.67" of rain and briefly some pea sized hail. Some wind damage on west side of town.

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

**23rd** - Thunderstorms, 2.08" broke the old daily record of 1.44" in 1988, peak wind gust 57 MPH, 3/4" hail

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

**6th** - Sun, muggy, good steady rain at 8:15 PM.

**28th** - Nice cool start to the day.

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.