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

Dry, Mild, Sunny, Windy

“Overall it was a mild, very dry, and very windy month. The average minimum was 5 degrees warmer than January, but the average maximum was 12 degrees warmer.” This quote, which summarizes February’s weather, is from **Joe Terry’s** report. All stations east of Allegany County reported less than an inch of precipitation. Record dryness was reported by three of the four NWS stations in the region: Baltimore BWI 0.26”, old record 0.36” in 2002, Wilmington DE 0.30”, old record 0.43” in 2002, and Washington National 0.35”, old record 0.42” in 1978.

The month began with morning temperatures on the 1st in the lower to middle 20’s which warmed up to the mid 50’s to the lower 60’s in the afternoon. A cold front moved through on the 2nd. Some light rain and light snow fell from the 2nd to the 4th. Liquid amounts averaged less than a tenth of an inch and snowfall amounts an inch or less. This turned out to be the “snowiest” event of the month. East of Garrett County the heaviest amounts fell in Carroll County. **Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4 NE** reported 3.0”, **Herb Close** of **Manchester 1 S** 2.7”, **Ralph Hartsock** of **Westminster 4 SSE** 1.8” and **Ray Muller** of **Westminster City** 1.6”.

Temperatures on the 4th and 5th remained below freezing at many stations. The coldest temperatures of the month occurred on the 5th and 6th. Below zero temperatures were reported by **Dave Leshner** of **Davis 3 SE WV** -6°, and **Rebecca Harvey** of **Eagle Rock** -5°.

The cold did not last long. 50’s and 60’s temperatures were common by the 7th. **Floyd Abell** of **Hollywood** observed 71° on the 8th. The warmest day of the month occurred on the 11th. Maximum temperatures ranged from the mid 60’s to the lower 70’s. **Jug Bay Wetlands** of **Lothian** reported 74°.

The month’s major weather event occurred on the 12th. A strong cold front that moved through the region brought strong damaging winds. 58 MPH or higher

winds were reported by ACON observers in Washington County by **Jim Vaughn** of **Smithsburg 2 NE** 66 mph, **Nate Mullins** of **LaVale** 64 mph, **Greg Keefer** of **Hagerstown 1 E** 64 mph, in **Carroll County** by **Bobby Miller** of **Millers 4 NE** 59 mph, **Ralph Hartsock** of **Westminster 4 SSE** 58 mph, and in Montgomery County **Richard Holden** of **Clarksburg 2 NE** 58 mph. Structural, tree damage and power outages were reported by ACON observers across the region.

From the 13th to the 25th maximum temperatures were generally in the 30’s and 40’s and minimums in the 20’s. Teens occurred at many stations on the 24th and 25th.

The wettest day of February occurred on the 18th. Precipitation began as snow and changed to rain. Liquid amounts were generally less than two tenths of an inch and snowfall amounts were only a few

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Jug Bay Wetland Lothian	74
Hollywood	73
Forest Glen	72

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 SE WV	-6
Eagle Rock	-5
Frostburg	1

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Oxon Hill	41.0
Hollywood	40.6
Byrans Road 2 ESE	40.2

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WV	25.5
Frostburg	28.7
Eagle Rock	30.1

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

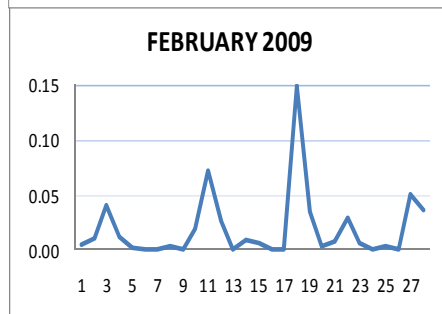
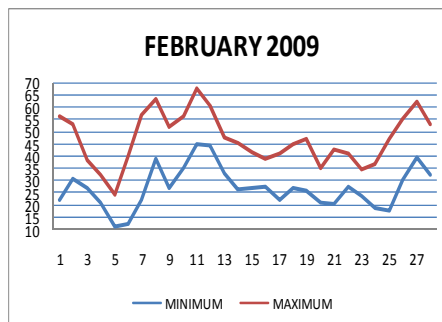
Davis 3 SE WV	4.45
Eagle Rock	2.23
Frostburg	1.34

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Owings Mills 2 SE	0.25
Jug Bay Wetland Lothian	0.31
Pasadena 2 N	0.34

MAXIMUM SNOWFALL

Davis 3 SE WV	36.1
Eagle Rock	23.0
Frostburg	5.1



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

tenths of an inch or less. Thunderstorms with hail were reported by **Greg Latta** of **Frostburg** and **Nate Mullins (Scott Lohr)** of **LaVale**. Around an half inch of rain fell.

Temperatures re-bounded into the 50’s and 60’s from the 26th to the 28th. Light rains averaging less than a tenth of an inch fell on the 27th and 28th.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2009

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

0.39", second driest Feb. on record. Driest 0.33 set in 2002.
26th - Peak wind gust of 7 MPH monthly record minimum.

Greg Latta of Frostburg

The following occurred sometime between 7AM the previous day and 7 AM on day indicated:

13th - Damaging winds.

19th - Thunderstorm with hail.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

12th - Extremely windy all day. Sustained winds 30-40 mph with a west wind gust measured at 64 mph. The wind was clocked at 67 mph at the Cumberland Airport. These winds caused widespread wind damage--many trees and power lines down and a good bit of structural damage as well. Allegheny Power reported nearly 300,000 customers lost power at some point, an unusually high number. This was one of the windiest days in many, many years.

18th - AM snow to rain, thunderstorm with hail at 8:30pm.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

3rd - Periods of wet AM snow.

28th - Wet -SN with -PL after dark.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

1st - Abundant sunshine and much warmer.

11th - Partly sunny and unseasonably warm.

18th - AM snow to afternoon light rain, cool.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

12th - Damaging winds, mild.

23rd - Partly cloudy, very windy, cold.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

6th - Sunny and milder after a very cold start, 9°.

13th - Still windy, colder.

18th - Snow changing to rain.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

1st - Clear sky, 100% sunshine, contrails at obs time.

12th - 13th - Power out 24.5 hours due to high winds on the 12th which gusted to 59 MPH.

19th - AM ground fog, windy and colder PM.

25th - Heavy AM frost.

Ray Muller of Westminster City

5th - Blustery, sunny, gusty NW winds.

10th - Light PM rain.

24th - Clear day with gentle NW winds.

Marty Brumback of Bryans Road 2 ESE

4th - Partly Cloudy and Blustery

18th - Snow in AM changes to sleet/rain mid-late morning

28th - Overcast all day. Maximum temperature right after midnight and the minimum temperature just before midnight

Eric Glass of Emmitsburg 2 SE

12th - Partly cloudy, damaging winds.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

6th - Maximum snow depth of the month 15".

Rich Giannola of JHU/APL

Max. barometric pressure = 30.45" on 5th, 6th, and 25th
Min. barometric pressure = 29.43" on 19th

2nd - -RA in early evening changing to -SN late evening.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

Driest February on record.

11th - Brief rain squall @ 10 PM.

Rich Giannola of Olney 1 S

18th - Morning -SN changing to RA in late morning, afternoon -RA.

23rd - Morning flurries.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

0.42" second driest February and the 6th driest month in station history. Driest February 0.40" in 2002.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

8th warmest, 6th least snowiest, and 2nd driest February.

2nd - Sunny early, increasing clouds most of day, RA-, S-(grass) evening.

16th - Cloudy AM, light flurries, clearing PM, seasonable.

28th - Cloudy, turning colder - Late evening IP, S- devel-ops (9 PM-Mid)

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

12th - Highest average wind speed since anemometer installed 12 years ago.

28th - Period of sleet, snow and snow pellets very late evening with light accumulation. It was a mild 64 degrees yesterday.

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

18th - -SN 0730-1000; -PL 0930-1100; -RA 1030-1600

27th - 0850 upper portions of halo.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

3rd - AM very light rain & snow-fair afternoon & evening

18th - Morning snow, sleet & rain-aft. rain--breezy

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

5th - Very cold, Mostly sunny, Windy.

14th - Mostly cloudy, colder, PM snow showers, breezy.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

0.48", 5th driest. Record driest 0.20" set in 2002.

7th - 64° Record max. temp, old record 62 set in 1938.

12th - High winds gusting to 64 MPH several times this morning. High winds all day long gusting to 55 MPH. Many reports of tree and power line damage, power outages and some structural damage.

14th - Some light wet snow late this afternoon—only measureable snow of the month.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

0.71" Fifth driest February. Driest 0.24" set in 2002.

11th - Record high of 65 - old record 61 set in 1999.

12th - Wind gust of 66 MPH ties the high February gust.

Dave Leshner of Davis 3 SE WV

5th - Maximum snow depth for the month of 16"

14th - Only day without at least a "T" of snow on ground.

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.