



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

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

WET MONTH ESPECIALLY ALONG THE I-95 CORRIDOR SOUTH OF BALTIMORE

The trend of frequent soaking rainfalls that began during April continued through May and even intensified. Moist ground turned soggy. Then after the drying shortly after mid month, the grounds became saturated with numerous patches of standing water as several heavy to intense thunderstorm downpours drenched the area within a five-day period from the 25th to the 29th. Baltimore, having marked its 2nd wettest May of 139, provided an idea how anomalously wet this May was. The prevailing wet grounds appeared to have a significant tempering affect on numerous daily max temperatures, preventing extremes of heat. However, the month average temperature was close to normal. The above was taken from **Jeff Stoudt's Laurel 2E** monthly report and edited for this report.

The month began with measurable precipitation on 8 of the first 9 days. **Nate Mullins** of **LaVale** reported 2.56" on the 4th and some flooding in the area.

Many stations in central Maryland had rainfall on all but three of the first 17 days. The only dry period of the month occurred from the 18th to the 24th.

Rains returned on the 25th and lasted till the 29th. The heaviest fell south of Baltimore and in the Washington DC suburbs. 3 to 5 inches was common in this area. **Jeff Stoudt** of **Laurel 2 E** reported slightly more than 4" in the 24 hour period on the 25th - 26th. **Lance Schafer** of **Sterling 4 N** reported 5.49" the 24th - 29th.

Meanwhile less than an inch of rain fell from the 8th to the 31st in New Castle County Delaware. In contrast to the wet, soggy ground to the southwest the ground was actually becoming dry.

An easterly wind component made for raw, wet, rainy days. Maximum temperatures on the 4th were only in the lower to mid 50's. Another cold damp day was the 26th when temperatures fell into the 50's from the days high before dawn. **Joe Terry** of **Forest Glen** reported his

daily minimum at noon.

Minimum temperatures were above normal due to the above average cloud cover. Frost was reported by some observers on the 19th.

The nicest weather occurred from the 18th thru the 24th. The coldest sunny day of the month was the 18th when temperatures only rose to around 60 degrees. Clear skies and calm winds permitted the temperatures to rapidly fall into the 30's on the morning of the 19th. Temperatures quickly rebounded. From the 20th to the 25th 80's were common. The warmest day of the month was the 23rd when mid 80's were common.

A frontal system stalled to the south of Baltimore on Memorial Day, the 25th, bringing the return of showers and thundershowers.

EXTREMES REPORTED BY

ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Montgomery Village 1SW 89
Eight Stations 88

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Eagle Rock 26
Davis 3 SE WV 31
Frostburg 32

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE 66.6
Montgomery Village 1SW 65.9

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

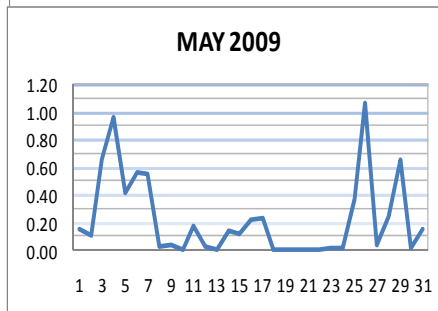
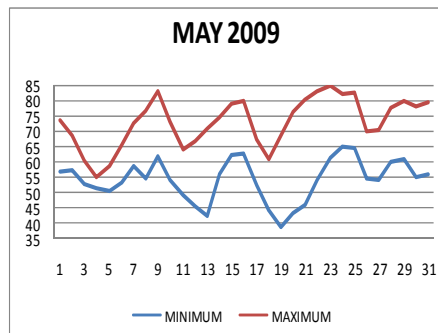
Davis 3 SE WV 55.2
Frostburg 56.8
Eagle Rock 57.9

MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Sterling 4 N 10.48
Gaithersburg 2 WNW 9.78

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

UofD REC Newark DE 3.84
Owings Mills 2 SE 3.88



ACON MD/DE Network

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

IMPORTANCE OF ACCURATE DATA

With all of the reports concerning global warming the accuracy of your data is of the utmost importance. At your observation time note your temperature extremes and precipitation amount for the previous 24 hours. If any precipitation falls or temperature extremes occur after your observation during the same calendar day do not adjust your data. This can be noted in your daily notes if you wish. If you miss a day due to being away etc. include the data in your next observation and note it on your form that it is for more than one day. Do not exclude the data.

Thanks! Kevin & Gary.

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR MAY 2009

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Temperatures averaged slightly above normal as a result of many cloudy nights which held temperatures up.

19th - Frosty morning but no damage.

Greg Latta of Frostburg

24th, 25th, 29th - Thunder during the previous 24 hours ending at 7 AM.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

4th - Steady rain overnight became heavy around daybreak and remained heavy through early afternoon. These heavy rains caused some flooding in the area.

8th - 10 consecutive days with measurable precipitation 4/29 to 5/8.

23rd - Wild thunderstorm suddenly blew up 4 to 5 miles SE of station at 4:30 PM. The storm produced extremely heavy rain, nearly continuous lightning, large hail and damaging winds. 2.52" was recorded at the Cumberland River Station on the Potomac North Branch and a 46 MPH gust at Wiley Ford, WV.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

May was much rainier than normal (9.45) with several heavy to intense thunderstorm downpours mostly near the end of the month. This wetness likely reduced some daily maximum temperatures; however, the monthly temperature (64.7) averaged to near normal.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

1st - Lots of clouds, AM showers and milder.

4th - Low overcast, rainy, and chilly.

13th - Cold start, then sunny and seasonable.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2SE

6th, 7th, 25th, & 29th - Thunder.

18th - Mostly cloudy, cool, breezy.

26th - Occasional showers and drizzle.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

4th - Rain, some moderate to heavy, ends late.

13th - Light frost

16th - Late heavy thunderstorms, vivid lightning.

26th - Rainy and cold. Carryover high temperature.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

14th - Occasional light showers, thunder late AM, lightning north 9PM.

21st - Heavy AM dew, clear skies all day. Minimum relative humidity 27%.

29th - Heavy shower 1:30 AM, thunder 4 PM.

Marty Brumback of Bryans Road 2 ESE

16th - Cloudy AM, sunny PM, Thunderstorm 10 PM.

25th - Mostly cloudy with dew points in lower 70's, thundershowers.

26th - Thunderstorm with high winds at 8:25 AM.

29th - Thunderstorms just after midnight and at 5:40 PM with intense precipitation.

Eric Glass of Emmitsburg 2 SE

16th - Lots of overcast clouds, humid, and warmer.

25th - Little sunshine, humid and warm.

26th - Light steady rain, cooler.

Rebecca Harvey of Eagle Rock

19th - Light frost.

Rich Giannola of JHU/APL

29th - ++TSRA began 2:30 PM, peak wind gust 45 WNW at 2:32 PM. Max rainfall rate 5.12"/hour at 2:45 PM.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

Wettest May at this station.

Thunder on the following days: 6th, 7th, 16th, 25th, 26th, 28th & 29th.

Rich Giannola of Olney 1 S

3rd & 4th - Rainy days. 1.72" by 5:45 PM of the 4th. 0.08" more during the evening.

6th & 7th - Rain began ~ 6PM on the 6th and totaled 1.14" by 6 AM of the 7th.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

2008 tied 1978 for the third wettest May since station was established on 8/4/1976. Only 5/1989 (10.93") and 5/1988 (7.73") were wetter.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

Second wettest May with 9.78". Wettest May is 1988 when 10.05" fell. 5 days had more than an inch or rain. 19 days with measurable rain one day shy of the record of 20 days set in 2003.

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

Wettest May in 15 year station history. Exceeds the previous record set last year by 1.51". About half of the days managed to reach the 80's despite the very wet, cloudy weather.

Floyd Abell of Hollywood

3rd - Rain heavy a times during the evening.

31st - Early morning thunderstorm, then fair.

John Zyla of Ridge

8th - First day with clear sky since 4/27.

29th - Pea size hail at 6:18 AM.

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

15th - AM fog, warm, cloudy.

25th - Memorial Day, partly cloudy, nearby thunderstorm.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

14th - Warm, mild, humid with scattered showers and thundershowers.

19th - Trace of frost but not a killer.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

Wind gust of 56 on the 14th, 48 on the 26th & 48 on the 13th.

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.