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

WARM MONTH WITH A HOT ENDING DRY EAST, WET WEST

May's temperatures averaged above normal. No freezing minimums were reported in Maryland or Delaware. The coolest temperatures occurred on the 1st and again on the 5th and 6th when minimums ranged from the mid 30's at cooler locations to mid 40's at warmer locations. The first 90° temperatures occurred on the 26th as many stations touched the 90 degree mark. The last weekend of the month, Memorial Day weekend, brought the hottest temperatures. Mid to upper 90's were common across region, but were a few degrees cooler along the Atlantic Coast and in the Western Maryland mountains.

There were numerous days when precipitation fell, but the amounts were generally light. Many of these events were thundershowers / thunderstorms events. Of the 525 observation days when measurable precipitation fell only eleven were for amounts of one inch or more. **Nate Mullins of LaVale** hit the jackpot with three such days: two days with over two inches along with another day with over one inch.

There were three periods of rain this month: 1st to the 6th, 13th to the 20th, and the 22nd to the 28th. The 4th was the wettest day, followed by the 18th and then very closely by the 15th. Region wide 60% of the months precipitation fell between the 13th and 20th. Yards and gardens began to show moisture stress at month's end.

Two tornadoes occurred on the evening of the 17th: an EF-0 near Wolfsville, Fredrick County, Maryland and an EF-1 near Maugansville, Washington County, Maryland. **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1E** provided details on the Maugansville tornado. Both storms caused tree and property damage.

The month began cloudy with periods of light rain. The first 80° temperatures of the month occurred on the 3rd. The 4th was wet and cool with temperatures that peaked out in the 50's and 60's. Minimum temperatures on the 5th and 6th were around 40°.

The weather was "quiet" from the 6th to the 13th. Maximum temperatures were in the 70's and minimums were in the 40's and 50's.

The rainy period this month occurred from the 13th to the 20th. Showers and thunderstorms were common and some were severe. **Nate Mullins of LaVale** and **Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1E** reported hail on the 18th.

Summer type conditions began on the 23rd and lasted for the balance of the month. Maximum temperatures failed to fall below 80° between the mountains and the Atlantic Coast.

Severe thunderstorms occurred on the 27th in Washington and Allegany Counties. **Nate Mullins of LaVale** reported large hail and 1.54" of rain.

The month ended on a very hot

EXTREMES REPORTED BY ACON OBSERVERS

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Pasadena 2 N	99
Baltimore 2 SE	99
Lothian	98
Westminster 4 SSE	98
Forest Glen	98

MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

Davis 3 SE WV	29
Frostburg	35
Smithsburg 1.5 SW	36

WARMEST AVG. TEMP.

Baltimore 2 SE	71.9
Ridge	69.2
Forest Glen	68.6
Hollywood 3 ENE	68.6

COLDEST AVG. TEMP.

Davis 3 SE WV	56.7
Frostburg	60.2
LaVale	63.6

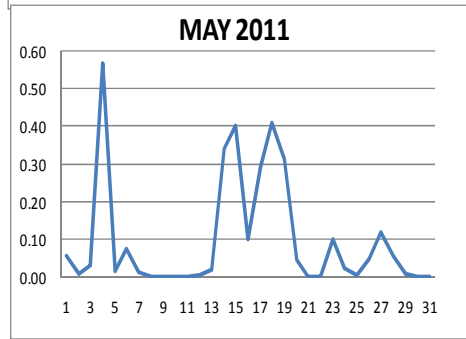
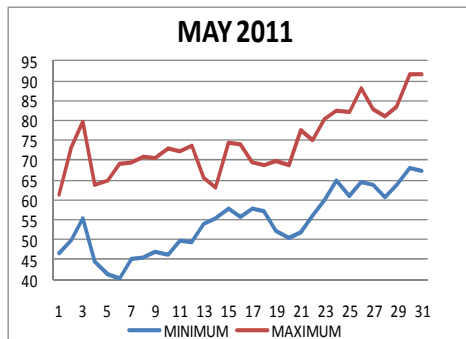
MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION

Frostburg	8.32
LaVale	8.00
Davis 3 SE WV	6.68
Millers 4 NE	4.65

MINIMUM PRECIPITATION

Rehoboth Beach Bwk	1.86
Olney 1 S	1.91
Glenmont 1 NNE	1.94

note with maximum temperatures in the mid to upper 90's and minimums in the upper 60's to lower 70's.



ACON MD/DE Network
Daily average temperatures and precipitation based on observation times, not calendar days.

WEATHER PARTY
SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2011
HOME OF HERB CLOSE
MANCHESTER 1 SW

OBSERVER COMMENTS FOR MAY 2011

Gary Gallaher of Bear 2 SW, DE

Many warm nights. Ten of the last eleven days saw temperatures of 80° or higher.

19th - Pea size hail reported in the area during a heavy afternoon thunderstorm.

Nate Mullins of LaVale

Wettest Spring season with 20.06". Previous Spring season record was 18.69" from 1993. 3rd wettest May and 10th wettest month overall since records began in 1948.

17th - Heavy PM thunderstorms 2.03"

18th - Severe thunderstorms, torrential downpours, large hail accumulated on the ground, flash flooding. Funnel cloud over Cumberland.

27th - Severe thunderstorms, large hail, heavy downpours, flash flooding, radar showed a possible tornado.

Jeff Stoudt of Laurel 2 E

May turned out decisively warmer than normal courtesy of summery temperatures. The growing rainfall deficiency along with hot temperatures raised the need for supplemental watering of lawns and gardens as those not watered were showing signs of drought stress by month's end.

Marty Sharrow of Owings Mills

Temps +4.7° and precipitation -1.25".

17th - Heavy AM shower.

26th - Sun & clouds, hazy, hot, and humid.

Joe Manfre of Baltimore 2 SE

1st - Cloudy, cool, light showers.

4th - Cloudy, cool, AM rain.

15th - Cloudy, warm, evening thunderstorms.

27th - Variable clouds, warm, humid, late PM thunderstorm.

Ralph Hartsock of Westminster 4 SSE

4th - Cold early, sunny.

21st - Sunny and warm.

31st - Sunny, very hot and humid.

Bobby Miller of Millers 4 NE

19th - AM thunderstorm 1.5" rain/hr., 1.85" total.

28th - Tropical CU moving NNE, few drops after observation.

Ray Muller of Reisterstown

Dry month. Three days with dense fog.

Eric Glass of Emmitsburg 2 SE

6th - At obs time: Clear sky, sunny, calm, and cold.

31st - At obs time: Light haze, sunny, calm, and warmer.

Rob Cohen of Potomac 4 N

4th - Afternoon temperatures in the mid 50's.

26th - Tied record maximum temperature

27th - Moderate thunderstorm 7:30 - 8 PM.

Rich Giannola of Olney 1 S

Maximum barometric pressure 30.30" on the 1st

Minimum barometric pressure 29.52" on the 15th.

Richard Holden of Clarksburg 2 ENE

Thunder reported on eight days. Periods of heavy rain reported on 11 days. Peak wind gusts of 30 MPH or greater reported on 5 days.

Stan Rossen of Glenmont 1 NNE

Spring precipitation: 11.34", Spring snowfall: T

27th - Morning minimum temperature 69°.

Kevin Shaw of Gaithersburg 2 WNW

May was a warm, dry month, but with frequent days of light precipitation (14 measureable vs. average 12.4 days) Minimum temperatures +6.7° made this my third warmest May. Warmest is 2004.

23rd - First 70° dew point of the season.

30th - Sunny, hot, humid, obnoxiously uncomfortable!!!

Joe Terry of Forest Glen

27th - Early evening moderate but brief thunderstorm. 10 degree temperature drop in 5 minutes.

31st - Unusually hot and humid with a 108 degree maximum heat index. Maximum of 98° broke the May monthly record of 97° which was tied yesterday.

Brian Smith of Oxon Hill

27th - AM minimum temperature 68°. -TSRA 0730-0815: strong TS rolled in from SW then fizzled rapidly.

John Zyla of Ridge

•High Temp of 96 degrees for the month on the 31st.

(Station High for May, highest in 17 years)

•4 days of 90 degree or above temps (Ties station record for most 90 deg days in May, 2004)

Max Hutto of Smithsburg 1.5 SW

5th - Sunny, not as cool, very windy.

18th - Showers, PM thunderstorms, Occasional sun, breezy.

Greg Keefer of Hagerstown 1 E

18th - Intense thunderstorm this afternoon between 5 - 5:30 PM with brief heavy rain, gusty winds to 42 MPH, and pea size hail enough to cover the bare spots on the ground and make it white.

27th - Intense thunderstorm this evening 8 - 8:30 PM with very strong winds gusting to 54 MPH and brief heavy rains. Lots of tree damage across the area from the winds. Some trees uprooted and many power outages.

Jim Vaughn of Smithsburg 2 NE

30th - Minimum temperature of 72° tied the record May maximum minimum temperature last set on 5/20/1996.

31st - Heat index of 105°. Maximum of 97 ties the highest May maximum temperature of 97° set on 5/20/1996.

Lance Shaffer of Sterling 4 N VA

8th & 9th - Nice weather days.

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.

John Zyla of **Ridge** toured the **Hurricane Hunter Aircraft** on May 3rd. The Aircraft made a stop at Patuxent River Naval Air Station on its 2011 Public Awareness Tour along the East Coast. Below is John's report.



Just some thoughts on the Hurricane Hunter Visit at Patuxent River Naval Air Station:

As I drove in to the area where the aircraft was I was surprised at the amount of cars and buses in the parking lot. When I got into the hangar, there was over a 100 people in line to start their tour. It seemed that lots of school groups took advantage of the visit to have a field trip. Inside the hangar around the plane were many booths and displays for not only weather but emergency preparedness, etc. I found out there are actually two Hurricane Hunter aircraft nicknamed "Miss Piggy" and "Kermit". We were about to tour Kermit.

Finally my turn came for a tour and I was struck by the fact this is where it all happens as I entered the aircraft. There were 3 or 4 stations set up inside the aircraft with crew members explaining what is done at each station and where everyone sits on board. Talking to the crew members was very educational because most have been doing this for many years and had many stories of extreme weather to relate until the next tour group came through.

As I exited the aircraft I noticed many red hurricane stickers on the fuselage. They were individual hurricane stickers, one for each storm the plane had flown into during its career. It was amazing that this aircraft had been "inside" so many systems over the years!

If you get the chance to tour a Hurricane Hunter I think you will find it worth your while, I know I did.

MD/DE/DC ACON REPORT

MAY 2011



Maugansville, Washington County, Maryland Tornado

May 18th. One mile northwest of Hagerstown, MD

Information furnished by **Greg Keefer** of **Hagerstown 1 E**.

Top left picture from the Channel 9 Web Site.

The other pictures are from the Herald Mail newspaper.

The National Weather Service confirmed that a 200-yard-wide EF-1 tornado passed through the area from 8:10 to 8:15 PM. The estimated maximum wind speed was 90 to 100 mph. Trees were uprooted and branches were strewn across yards in the area. Shingles littered some parts of the streets. It did some minor structural damage & turned over a RV Home.