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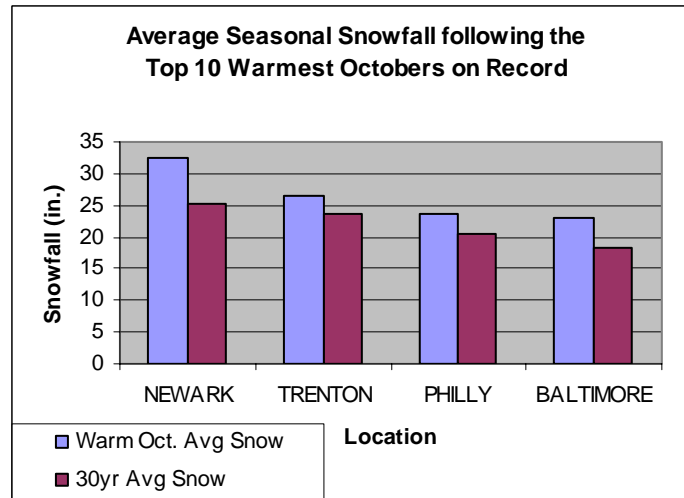
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### Rainfall Totals Oct. 24-27

Oxon Hill, MD	7.03"
Washington, DC	6.63"
Norristown, PA	5.74"
Towson, MD	5.01"
Baltimore, MD	3.85"
Ramsey, NJ	3.60"
Trenton, NJ	3.40"
Newark, DE	3.04"
Andover, NJ	2.98"
Allentown, PA	2.93"
W. Paterson, NJ	2.40"

## October Warmth...A Precursor for Winter?



For those thinking that this October was unusually warm, you were right. In fact, October 2007 will go down as one of the warmest on record. Just a few of the locations who broke their all-time records include: Atlantic City, Newark, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC. The records were not just barely broken either, they were shattered by more than one degree, which is

significant when looking at many years of data.

The big question is what this unprecedented Fall warmth could mean for the region's Winter. The **Weather-Works Winter Forecast** predicts slightly above average temps. However, that does not necessarily mean below normal winter snow. Recent

climatological research indicates that warm Octobers do not always lead to less snow.

The graph to the left shows the average snowfall for the winter seasons following a top-10 warmest October (data goes back to the early-mid 1940s). Thru the main urban corridor, snowfall was near to slightly above normal. Keep in mind, that the data is slightly skewed in that one of the warmest Octobers was 1995. If you remember, '95-'96 was one of the snowiest years on record. The study also showed that five of the seasons had below normal snowfall, with the other half above normal.

On a side note, the end of October brought a 3-5 day rainy pattern which ended with heavy, prolonged rainfall (see rainfall totals in the bottom left). This helped to slightly improve conditions in drought-stricken areas.

## Tackling Winter's Challenges: Snow Showers



Snow Showers is a term used often in [Weather-Works](#) forecasts and can many times

provide a challenge to snow removers. The official definition of a snow shower from the American Meteorological Society (AMS) is "A brief period of snowfall in which intensity can be variable and may change rapidly". Along with the variability in time and intensity, they also are not uniform in that many times they act like a thunderstorm in the respect that they are hit or miss.

Even though there is no favored time of year for snow showers to occur, there are a few patterns that are conducive to their development. Behind a strong, arctic cold front, the air mass becomes unstable and this allows for snow showers to develop. The instability and development is very similar to thunderstorms, however winter snow showers take place behind a front.

A few of the other snow shower patterns include: Northwest winds which occasionally bring a few lake effect snow showers into the area

and strong upper-level troughs.

The best way to deal with snow showers is to remember they are like a t-storm in that they are brief, isolated and sometimes intense. Depending on temps, deicers are usually the most efficient way to treat snow showers. On a rare occasion, plows may be needed.

### Did you know...

**Last season, there were 9 snow shower events across New Jersey and Pennsylvania.**

# Website of the Month



<http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us>

This month's website is from the USDA Forest Service and includes lots of information on wildfires, including an interactive map of the ongoing fires in the country.

## Snow Business Magazine

If you are a member of SIMA be sure to check out some articles from WeatherWorks President Frank Lombardo.

The November issue of "Snow Business" features a long range winter outlook along with a separate article highlighting the challenges and solutions to snow and ice billing.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends -Clocks back 1hr
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day
- Nov. 14 N. Jersey Garden Workshop -Princeton, NJ
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving

## NOVEMBER AVERAGES (30 year averages: 1971-2000)

	Sussex, NJ		Philadelphia, PA		Baltimore, MD (BWI)	
	Nov 1	Nov 30	Nov 1	Nov 30	Nov 1	Nov 30
High Temp	57	45	60	49	61	51
Low Temp	33	26	44	35	38	31
Precip (Mo. Total)	3.73"		3.16"		3.12"	
Snowfall (Mo. Total)	1.9"		0.4"		0.6"	
Sunrise	7:29 AM	7:03 AM	7:29 AM	7:02 AM	7:34 AM	7:06 AM
Sunset	5:54 PM	4:31 PM	5:59 PM	4:36 PM	6:06 PM	4:44 PM

### November 2007 Temperature Outlook

Temperatures should average out near to slightly above normal. Look for a few temperature swings (especially in early Nov) along the way as cold fronts this time of year can tap into fairly cold Canadian air.

### November 2007 Precipitation Outlook

Expect near or slightly below normal amounts of precipitation across the area this month. Given near normal temps, and the potential for a drier month, snowfall should be near or below normal.

## WeatherWorks Winter Update

We hope that you have enjoyed and found the recently issued [WeatherWorks](#) Winter forecast both instructive and useful. If you have not looked through it yet, it is certainly worth the time. In addition to a discussion of expected general patterns and the resulting forecast, it also includes some good reference material concerning seasonal normals and a brief reminder of what happened last season.

In the meantime, we hope you

are taking the next few weeks to gear up for the season ahead. In addition to the usual tasks of equipment maintenance, purchasing supplies and training personnel, don't forget about "your weather experts!"

While a good majority of you have returned the client contact sheets to us, there are some we have yet to receive. It would be greatly appreciated if these could be filled out and sent back to our office as soon

as possible. If you need a blank sheet, please do not hesitate to contact us, we are more than happy to help out!

After your contact sheet is received in our office, Meteorologist Ken Elliott will be in touch with your primary contact to briefly verify any major changes to your contact methods/information and to clarify the winter policies and any other questions you may have. Good luck this year!

## Thanksgiving - The Unofficial Start of Winter?

November can certainly be a fickle month weatherwise. Conditions can range from mild fall weather to shots of cold Canadian air and given the right conditions, some snow can fall. However, November snow is usually confined to higher terrain away from the big cities.

This leads to the question: Is Thanksgiving similar to Memorial Day, marking the unofficial start of the winter season? Astronomically speaking, winter begins on the Winter



Solstice on or about December 21st. However, we all know rough winter weather can happen well before then. (Remember last month's article detailing past October snowfalls?)

The meteorological definition of winter is December 1st through the end of February. This breakdown is generally for the purposes of records and data assimilation more so than for actual meteorological reasons. As a result, the win-

ter season is simply 3 whole calendar months.

Getting back to Thanksgiving, below is a list of Thanksgiving Weather Occurrences from around the region. The data shows that winter quickly approaches after the holiday.

Thanksgiving Weather		
Year	Location	Weather
1972	Washington	Low: 26
1989	Newark, NJ	5.7" Snow
1996	Allentown, PA	Low: 16