WEATHERWORKS

THE WEATHER TRACKER

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Inside this issue...

Hurricane Dean Fact Box

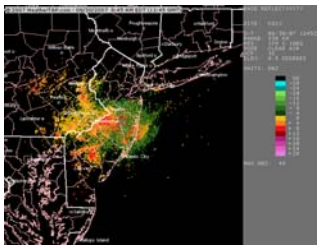
Formed	Aug. 13
Dissipated	Aug. 23
Peak Winds	165 mph
Lowest Pressure	906mb
Deaths	42
Prelim. Damage	$3.8 Bil

Miscellaneous Facts:

- First storm since Andrew (1992) to make landfall as a Category 5
- 9th most intense storm ever in Atlantic

Weather Myths Exposed

Let's take a look at some common weather myths and truths that may affect you and your company:



The above radar image shows that it is clear in North NJ and it is not snowing or raining.

****MYTH****

Don't be fooled if the radar is not showing precipitation in your area! Sometimes snow or rain, will not be detected because the precipitation is falling from very low clouds, which the radar beam can't see (overshoots). Radar is to be used as another tool with other products.

Freezing rain can take place with observed temperatures at 34 degrees.

****TRUE****

Even though air temps may be above freezing, keep in mind, that occasionally ground conditions (especially metal and exposed objects like bridges) could be below 32 degrees. Always pay attention to ground temps and our forecasts will try to highlight that.

Forecasters only rely on one Computer Model to help with a forecast.

****MYTH****

Several computer models are used to look at future weather parameters. The NAM, GFS, MM5 and ECMWF are among some of the models studied. The models don't just spit out a forecast either. It is up to the meteorologist to interpret the weather parameters that are displayed. The models are used in conjunction with several other tools to help understand what is going on.

Steady snow can stick on paved surfaces, even after a 70 degree day.

****TRUE****

Always remember that this is possible, even it does not FEEL like snow could possibly stick. Last year in Chicago, a burst of snow covered and remained on all surfaces briefly on October 12th! Also, the day before this past season's St. Patrick's Day storm, temperatures were in the 60s and 70s.

The time to prepare for winter is now!

****TRUE****

August Weather Review

The start of August began like many others across the area...HOT The first ten days of the month featured high temperatures over 90 at least half of the time. In Washington, DC the high was 88 degrees or hotter for the first 17 days of the month, including a 102 degree day on the 8th!

A very unusual set-up brought a quick end to the heat in mid to late August. Low-level clouds, periods of rain and a flow off the ocean brought significantly cooler weather to the area. This lasted nearly the whole work week and when it did dry enough to resume outdoor activities, many workers were shivering in the cold. However, the pattern finally broke and led to a very nice stretch of weather going into the unofficial end of summer.

As for severe weather, the biggest event of the month came in NE PA and N. NJ. On August 8th, a Mesoscale Convective System (MCS) moved through in the very early hours of the morning. The storm produced strong and occasionally damaging winds throughout the area along with torrential rainfall (3-4 inches in an hour). This created some significant flash flooding problems. In addition, the storm was rotating for most of it's life cycle. Though no tornadoes were reported in PA or NJ. The storm did go on to produce an EF-2 tornado in Brooklyn, NY. Otherwise, the rain disparity continued with Northern areas seeing above normal rainfall and Maryland staying in a drought.

Did you know...

The three-day stretch of cool and cloudy weather August 20th-22nd was the first time Philadelphia did not break 70 deg. for 3 days in a row in August since 1940.

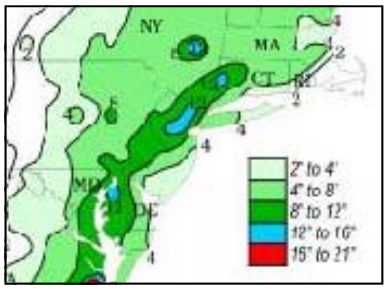
September 2007 Preview

Many in the Mid-Atlantic look forward to September weather. Given warm afternoons and cool mornings as opposed to the steamy days and muggy mornings associated with August, it's not hard to understand why.

September 2007 is shaping up to be a near normal month both in terms of temperatures and rainfall. Summer weather will continue for the next several days, however, a period of cool weather is expected to arrive towards the end of the month.

While September can be a beautiful month, with decreasing frequency and intensity of heat, humidity and severe weather, September does mark the peak of the Atlantic Hurricane season.

It was 8 years ago in September of 1999 when Tropical Storm (previously Hurricane) Floyd brought flooding rains (comparable to flooding this April in Northeast NJ) to parts of the mid-Atlantic ending a drought. As noted in the August summary, drought conditions are persisting in the southern half of the area, where some tropical rains would certainly be welcomed to begin to put a dent in the rainfall deficits.



Rainfall Amounts from Floyd Sept. 13-17, 1999
NOAA/CPC

Client Contact Sheets

Now that Labor Day has passed, it's really time to start thinking about winter since the beginning of the snow and ice season is only a few months away.

One of the most important things you can do to help out the staff here at WeatherWorks is provide us with your contact information.

We usually send out a Client Contact Sheet for information on who and how to contact the company for alerts. Look for information in the mail that will contain the Client Contact Sheet along with important reminders on how the alert service works.

We can't underscore enough how important it is to submit this data to us ***before*** winter weather arrives. Providing us this information early not only allows our meteorologists to prepare earlier, but avoids missing an alert for snowfall. If we need to make phone calls for an event, we also want to have the most up-to-date phone and client information.

This year, Ken Elliott will be in charge of all alert contact information. If you have any changes or updates through the year, please email or call Ken (908-850-8600).

While Air Temps Cool, Water Temps Remain Warm

A sure sign of fall is the cooling days. But even as the air cools off and turns crisp, water temperatures remain warmer than one might expect through September.

Why does water take longer to cool off in the fall and longer to warm in the spring? It's all about specific heat. Specific heat is a thermal property which dictates how much energy is needed to cause a change in temperature. Water has a much higher specific heat than air and for that matter the Earth's surface. As a result, changes in water temperature "lag" behind changes in temperatures of the surrounding air and adjacent land areas. This is why shore areas are warmer compared to adjacent inland areas in the fall and early winter, and cooler in the spring and early summer.

This phenomenon also explains why the Hurricane season begins in June and lasts until the end of November. Even in the tropics, water temperatures take a long time to warm and a long time to cool, allowing oceanic heat content to remain high well into the Fall Season.

Average Water Temperature (degrees F)

Location	Aug. 1-15	Aug. 16-31	Sept. 1-15	Sept. 16-30	Oct. 1-15	Oct. 16-31
Sandy Hook, NJ	72	72	70	66	61	57
Ocean City, MD	71	71	71	69	65	59

Website of the Month

The National Hurricane Center's Homepage is a great source of information for all tropical threats. They also have a section for satellite imagery as well as a past storm archive.

Winter Forecast Update

As August draws to a close, the staff at WeatherWorks is working hard to assemble and study the outlook for this coming winter. Look for the 2007-2008 Winter Forecast to be issued sometime in early October.

In addition to a brief recap of last season, the forecast will include a month by month outlook of snowfall and temperatures.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep. 3	Labor Day
Sep. 24-25	SIMA Leadership Conference Atlantic City, NJ