

**SEPTEMBER 1992:** September was a very wet month for most of the region, with four of the five airports recording monthly rainfall totals more than two inches above normal. In addition, sections of Fairfax County measured over 7 inches of rain while portions of extreme southern Maryland recorded over 11 inches. Most of the precipitation fell during the early (2nd – 10th) and latter (22nd – 28th) parts of the month. Unsettled weather prevailed throughout the entire Labor Day weekend with all-day soaking rains on the 6th. Tropical Storm Danielle generated locally heavy rain and gusty winds during the evening of the 25th as it made landfall south of Ocean City, MD and tracked northwestward into the mid-Atlantic region. The most significant flooding and beach erosion occurred along the New Jersey coast. There were four days (2nd, 8th, 10th, and 22nd) with thunderstorms at DCA (twice the monthly normal).

Monthly temperatures averaged below normal for the sixth month out of the last seven (only July was warmer than normal). Departures reached nearly -2°F at DCA, with slightly more than half of the days during the month recording subnormal daily temperatures. There were no 90°F+ readings observed at any of the five airports during September, the first such occurrence at DCA since 1987. In addition, DCA has recorded only 21 days (through September) with temperatures at or above 90°F, the least since 1979. There were a couple of unseasonably cool periods, especially toward the latter portion of the month. On the 25th highs remained below 60°F at all 5 airports while lows dipped into the 30's and 40's across much of the area on the mornings of the 24th and 30th.

**SEPTEMBER 1992 WEATHER STATISTICS FOR THE WASHINGTON/BALTIMORE AREA:**

Station <u>Location</u>	Temperatures (°F)					Extreme/Day		Precipitation (In)		
	<u>AvMx</u>	<u>AvMn</u>	<u>AvgT</u>	<u>NmIT</u>	<u>DepNm</u>	<u>MaxT</u>	<u>MinT</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Norm</u>	<u>DepNm</u>
National (DCA)	77.0	61.3	69.2	71.1	-1.9	88/22	44/30	3.49	3.22	+0.27
Baltimore (BWI)	77.0	58.3	67.7	68.9	-1.2	88/22+	40/30	5.96	3.46	+2.50
Dulles (IAD)	76.3	55.6	66.0	67.4	-1.4	88/4	38/30	5.55	3.26	+2.29
Ft. Belvoir (DAA)	78.6	59.7	69.1	69	0	89/9*	43/30	5.79	3.6	+2.2
Andrews AFB (ADW)	75.4	57.7	66.5	69	-2	86/9#	41/30	5.77	3.6	+2.2

Other dates of occurrence: \*September 9th; # September 10th and 22nd, \*September 22nd.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER: THE FIRST FROST OR FREEZE**

October is usually the month when we often think about the first frost or freeze in the Washington/Baltimore area, especially outside the city. Below is a listing of the dates with the first 32°F or lower reading at DCA during the past 10 years, along with the earliest and latest freezes on record, courtesy of the Washington WSFO, Sterling, VA.

<u>Year</u>	<u>First 32°F (or lower) date</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>First 32°F (or lower) date</u>
1991	Nov. 4	1986	Nov. 13
1990	Nov. 19	1985	Dec. 2
1989	Nov. 18	1984	Nov. 20
1988	Nov. 25	1983	Dec. 2
1987	Nov. 11	1982	Nov. 6
Earliest freeze: Oct. 10, 1895		Latest freeze: Dec. 14, 1980	