

## August 2010

**August was very hot, the only months that were hotter were June and July of this year although August of last year was nearly as hot. But as West Henrico Co. – Glen Allen station only opened in August of 2008 we use the Airport for historic records. Using the mean temperatures for the Richmond International Airport, this August was the seventh hottest of the 113 years of records and August 2009 was in eighth place.** The month's average temperature here was 77.4 °F a +4.2 °F departure when compared to Ashland's average and only 0.1 °F warmer here when compared to last August. The 3.97 inches of rainfall for August was only 0.11 inch less than average when compared to Ashland's average. The West Henrico Co. – Glen Allen Station had thunder on 8 days but several thunderstorms went to the SW or south. August had more humidity than July. The average relative humidity for July was 63.5 % and for August 72.7 % thus the heat was felt more. On the 5<sup>th</sup> after rain just before midnight of the 4<sup>th</sup>, the morning broke hot and steamy. The Davis Pro recorded a high dew point of 80.4 °F at 1355 and a heat index of 115.7 °F. I think these values might be as much as 2 °F high but at any rate it is the highest I have ever seen displayed on the Davis Pro 2.

August had 12 days with measurable rain with 1.19 inches of rain that occurred on the 12<sup>th</sup> in a thunderstorm which was about 30% of the month's rain.

August had 16 days with 90°F or above temperatures and the Airport had 17 days. The maximum temperature for August was 97 °F recorded on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> and the lowest minimum temperature for the month was only 66 °F. This is a very high minimum temperature for the month.

A wind gust of 33 mph that was recorded on the 5<sup>th</sup> occurred at 1725 during a thunderstorm and was the strongest wind gust recorded for August. On the 7<sup>th</sup> I wired in a new anemometer that is now approximately 45 feet above the ground and should improve my wind observations.

The summer was the hottest summer Richmond has ever experienced. The summer season average was 1.7 °F hotter than the previous summer season record of 79.6 °F set in the summer of 1900. The West Henrico Co. – Glen Allen station had a summer season average of 80.5 °F and the Richmond International Airport had 81.3 °F or +0.8 °F hotter than western Henrico. The summer was the driest on the West Henrico Co. – Glen Allen VA Station records but still wetter than Richmond by 3.52 inches. The summer for Richmond was the third driest in the 113 years of records.

Summer	Temp, Ashland 30Y Ave.	2010 Glen Allen Ave.	2010 Glen Allen Dep. °F	Precip. Ashland 30Y Ave.	2010 Glen Allen Inches	Glen Allen Precip. Dep. inches
June	72.30	80.08	7.8	3.48	1.11	-2.37
July	76.40	81.97	5.6	4.35	4.37	0.02
Aug	75.24	79.44	4.2	4.08	3.97	-0.11
SUM	223.94	241.49	17.55	11.91	9.45	-2.46
AVE.	74.65	80.50	5.85	3.97	3.15	-0.82