

# Glen Allen Climate

Glen Allen is located in east-central Virginia and just west of a line separating the Coastal Plains from the Piedmont. The Blue Ridge Mountains lie about 78 miles to the west and the Chesapeake Bay 70 miles to the east. This station is located about one mile NE of the intersection of Broad Street and Cox Road and is about 273 feet in elevation and in the NW section of Henrico County.

The climate might be classified as modified continental. Summers are hot and humid and winters generally mild. The mountains to the west act as a partial barrier to outbreaks of cold, continental air in winter. The cold winter air is delayed long enough to be modified, and then further warmed as it subsides in its approach to Glen Allen. The open waters of the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean contribute to the humid summers and mild winters. The coldest weather normally occurs in late December and January, when low temperatures usually average in the upper 20s, and the high temperatures in the upper 40s. Temperatures seldom lower to zero. Summertime high temperatures above 100 degrees are not uncommon, but do not occur every year.

Precipitation is rather uniformly distributed throughout the year. However, dry periods lasting several weeks do occur, especially in October when long periods of pleasant, mild dry weather are most common. There is considerable variability in total monthly amounts from year to year due to the variability of the number of thunderstorms and tropical storms. Tropical storms are generally responsible for wet fall conditions. Snow usually remains on the ground only one or two days at a time. Ice storms (freezing rain or glaze) are not uncommon, but they are seldom severe enough to do any considerable damage. A notable exception was the spectacular glaze storm of January 27-28, 1943, when nearly 1 inch of ice accumulation caused heavy damage to trees and overhead transmission lines. Hurricanes and tropical storms have been responsible for most of the flooding during the summer and early fall months. Hurricanes passing near Glen Allen have produced record rainfalls. The most noteworthy of these were Hurricanes Connie and Diane that brought heavy rains five days apart in 1955.

Based on the 1971- 2000 period, the average first occurrence of 32 degrees Fahrenheit in the fall is October 29 and the average last occurrence in the spring is April 8.