

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SINCLAIR WEEKS, Secretary
WEATHER BUREAU
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CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE

APRIL 1955
Volume LIX No. 4



ASHEVILLE: 1955

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE - APRIL 1955

WEATHER SUMMARY

GENERAL

Unusual warmth was the outstanding feature of the month.

This was the fifth warmest April in Maryland and the eighth warmest in Delaware since temperature records began in 1895. The ten temperature stations in Delaware averaged 55.8°, with little station to station variation; while in Maryland monthly averages ranged from 51.2° at Bittinger 2 NW to 62.9° at Blackwater Refuge. The monthly range in temperatures was less than usual in both states as compared with previous years, nearly all of which experienced higher maxima and lower minima. Temperature extremes in Maryland were 22° at Bittinger 2 NW on the 8th and 87° at Waldorf Police Brks on the 19th. In Delaware the extremes were 27° at Georgetown 5 SW on the 5th and 82° at Lewes, Milford, and Selbyville on the 19th.

Precipitation was moderately less than normal with deficiencies of 0.72 inch in Delaware and 0.54 inch in Maryland. In spite of the deficiency, the frequent occurrence of rains during the last two-thirds of the month tended to provide adequate topsoil moisture for earlier planted crops, although outdoor work was hampered to some extent. Extremes in monthly precipitation in Delaware ranged from 3.81 inches at Bridgeville 1 NW to 2.18 inches at Selbyville; and in Maryland from 5.10 inches at Owings Ferry Landing to 1.64 inches at Ocean City. The greatest daily amounts were 1.95 inches at Annapolis USN Academy (14th) and Owings Ferry Landing (24th), in Maryland; and 1.46 inches at Bridgeville 1 NW, Del. on the 25th.

Snowfall was negligible. None was recorded in Delaware and only a few stations in Maryland reported a trace.

Cloudiness averaged somewhat more than normal and the percentage of possible sunshine ranged from normal to moderately below the usual expectancy, based on available reports.

WEATHER DETAILS

The first three days of April were mild and sunny while a large dry air mass slowly drifted eastward into the Atlantic. An inflow of fresh Canadian air on the 4th restored seasonable coolness which prevailed generally through the 8th. General light rains and a few scattered thunderstorms featured the 6th when a frontal zone crossed the Section.

Temperature-wise, the remainder of the month

was characterized by unseasonable warmth interspersed with short periods of mostly near-normal coolness.

Precipitation occurred almost daily from the 11th until the end of the month due to the frequent passage of disturbances over or near the Maryland-Delaware Section. Although the rains were accompanied by quite a few thunderstorms, particularly in the last half of the month, daily precipitation amounts were mostly light to moderate. Less than one-third of the stations reported as much as 1.00 inch of rainfall for the greatest daily measurement during the month.

WEATHER EFFECTS

Farm activities made normal progress during the month except in a few areas where they were hampered by wet ground. Ample topsoil moisture and mild temperatures resulted in good growth of pastures and earlier planted crops and rapid germination of recent plantings. Peach and apple trees were mostly dormant during the late March freeze, thereby escaping damage, made rapid progress during April with peaches blooming and setting fruit. In the important Maryland apple area rainy weather may have interfered with apple pollination. Vegetable planting made good progress east of Chesapeake Bay but elsewhere wet ground hampered operations.

The U. S. Geological Survey reported that runoff in eastern Maryland was back in the deficient range after a respite of two months. The ground-water level in the key well near Colesville was well below normal after a greater than average decline. Combined storage in Prettyboy and Lock Raven Reservoirs continued to gain slowly to 57% of capacity.

DESTRUCTIVE STORMS

On the 17th about 1 p.m., a windstorm capsized a boat near St. Leonard, Md., drowning two men.

A thunderstorm attended by hail caused minor crop and property damage at Prince Frederick, Md., on the 24th. On the same date, about 5 to 6 p.m., a thunderstorm at Pocomoke City, Md., caused miscellaneous wind damage amounting to approximately \$2,000, none of which affected crops.

FLOODS

None were reported during the month.
J. E. Stork

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE
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Station	Wind direction		Wind speed m. p. h.				Relative humidity averages - percent				Number of days with precipitation						Percent of possible sunshine	Average sky cover sunrise to sunset	
	Prevailing	Percent of time from prevailing	Average	Fastest mile	Direction of fastest mile	Date of fastest mile	1:30 a EST	7:30 a EST	1:30 p EST	7:30 p EST	Trace	.01-.09	10-49	50-99	100-199	200 and over			Total
ABERDEEN PHILLIPS FIELD, MD.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	4	1	1	0	17	-	-
ANNAPOLIS USN ACADEMY, MD	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	75	62	65	6	4	6	0	1	0	17	-	-
BALTIMORE WB AP, MD.	WNW	10	12.9	53	SW	19	76	76	55	62	6	8	4	2	0	0	20	51	6.7
FREDERICK WB AP, MD.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	1	0	0	11	-	-
WASHINGTON WB CITY, D. C.	S†	14†	10.9†	28	NW	7	73†	75†	52†	60†	6	4	6	0	1	0	17	50†	6.8†
WILMINGTON WB AP, DEL.	S	9	9.5	-	-	-	78	76	56	69	4	6	7	1	0	0	18	-	6.9

† Airport Data

COMPARATIVE DATA

Table 1

APRIL

Year	Temperature			Precipitation			Year	Temperature			Precipitation			Year	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days .01 or more		Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days .01 or more		Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days .01 or more
MARYLAND						MARYLAND						MARYLAND								
1895	52.4	89	18	5.17	0.1		1918	51.0	83	15	5.90	5.7	1941	56.9	97	17	2.94	0		
1896	55.9	97	12	1.42	0.7		1919	51.7	88	11	3.34	0.1	1942	55.8	96	18	1.12	0.1		
1897	52.1	94	15	2.97	0.1		1920	50.3	88	12	4.77	0.6	1943	48.5	86	5	3.20	0.5		
1898	50.3	86	6	2.67	2.4		1921	58.0	92	16	3.13	0.7	1944	51.0	84	13	4.10	0.8		
1899	53.1	94	14	1.60	0.3		1922	54.0	93	17	1.84	0.1	1945	56.2	90	20	3.66	T		
1900	52.3	86	16	1.93	0.4		1923	51.5	88	3	4.15	1.1	1946	53.0	92	16	1.82	T		
1901	49.1	90	15	5.74	2.0		1924	50.0	83	13	4.94	5.8	1947	54.7	90	20	2.65	T		
1902	51.7	102	16	3.38	2.8		1925	55.2	97	20	2.49	0.2	1948	54.2	88	20	3.97	T		
1903	52.4	95	13	4.06	T		1926	49.9	89	18	1.72	0.5	1949	52.7	87	19	2.79	1.2		
1904	49.1	87	10	2.47	0.2		1927	49.9	91	18	4.91	1.7	1950	50.1	85	10	1.72	0.3		
1905	52.8	88	8	2.82	0.6		1928	49.9	85	14	5.85	4.4	1951	53.0	88	19	3.55	T		
1906	54.1	96	10	3.23	T		1929	55.4	94	25	6.44	0.2	1952	54.8	93	21	6.86	0.1		
1907	47.0	86	9	3.33	2.0		1930	50.6	93	18	2.54	0.6	1953	53.6	89	21	3.86	0.1		
1908	54.5	90	19	2.30	T		1931	51.3	84	18	3.05	1.6	1954	57.5	91	16	3.40	0.1		
1909	52.6	89	5	3.51	0.9		1932	50.3	84	16	2.18	0.4	1955	56.8	87	22	2.96	T		
1910	55.9	92	20	5.58	0.2		1933	52.8	88	20	5.44	0.1	All Years	52.5		3.50	1.0			
1911	49.9	88	0	3.20	1.5		1934	51.9	86	19	2.80	0.2								
1912	54.7	87	21	2.72	T		1935	49.9	92	14	3.76	2.3								
1913	53.9	90	11	4.41	T		1936	49.6	90	11	2.82	0.3								
1914	51.5	89	15	3.89	0.1		1937	51.1	94	19	6.52	0.2								
1915	56.9	100	10	1.56	4.5		1938	54.8	94	19	1.76	0.2								
1916	51.4	89	17	3.10	4.3		1939	51.2	93	16	5.03	0.2								
1917	52.4	90	14	2.41	4.0		1940	48.2	84	13	5.92	1.8								
DELAWARE						DELAWARE						DELAWARE								
1895	52.1	89	28	5.39	0		1918	52.3	81	28	4.33	0.2	1941	56.3	91	28	3.19	0		
1896	55.9	99	22	1.46	T		1919	52.4	81	21	3.91	T	1942	55.1	91	25	1.03	0		
1897	52.8	89	26	3.18	0		1920	52.3	84	26	3.93	T	1943	49.3	84	18	3.46	T		
1898	50.1	82	21	3.60	1.8		1921	58.5	88	26	3.61	3.6	1944	51.2	83	22	4.87	0.9		
1899	52.3	84	22	1.56	T		1922	54.2	88	28	2.32	0	1945	55.9	87	26	3.81	0		
1900	53.2	79	24	2.39	T		1923	52.0	83	11	4.22	0.1	1946	52.0	87	25	2.27	0		
1901	49.9	81	31	5.12	0		1924	50.4	79	20	5.52	2.4	1947	53.8	84	20	3.89	0		
1902	52.4	90	27	4.25	T		1925	55.3	89	25	2.96	0	1948	52.6	83	25	3.27	0		
1903	52.8	93	25	3.66	T		1926	50.8	88	25	1.91	T	1949	52.8	84	19	2.58	0		
1904	49.5	84	24	2.40	T		1927	50.3	94	28	3.09	1.2	1950	49.9	81	22	2.04	T		
1905	52.7	85	26	3.07	T		1928	50.8	82	23	5.88	0.6	1951	52.8	92	27	2.63	0		
1906	54.4	89	26	2.35	0		1929	56.0	95	32	6.74	0	1952	55.2	89	25	6.02	T		
1907	47.4	83	23	3.36	0.5		1930	50.7	85	25	1.99	T	1953	53.4	86	27	4.43	T		
1908	55.3	87	24	2.81	T		1931	51.9	78	28	3.31	0	1954	56.7	86	23	3.77	T		
1909	53.7	86	25	4.30	T		1932	51.6	80	29	2.52	T	1955	55.8	82	27	2.81	0		
1910	57.1	87	28	3.85	0		1933	53.1	30	28	5.42	0	All Years	52.8		3.53	0.4			
1911	49.7	79	25	3.66	T		1934	52.0	82	29	3.13	T								
1912	54.3	83	27	2.83	T		1935	50.9	85	30	3.81	T								
1913	55.2	83	29	5.14	T		1936	51.2	85	28	3.01	T								
1914	52.5	85	24	3.38	T		1937	52.3	88	28	5.19	T								
1915	57.8	87	25	2.44	9.3		1938	55.3	88	25	1.87	T								
1916	51.5	87	28	2.42	1.1		1939	52.0	88	27	5.66	T								
1917	52.4	89	24	2.52	2.6		1940	47.9	80	22	5.69	2.2								

See reference notes following Station Index.

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

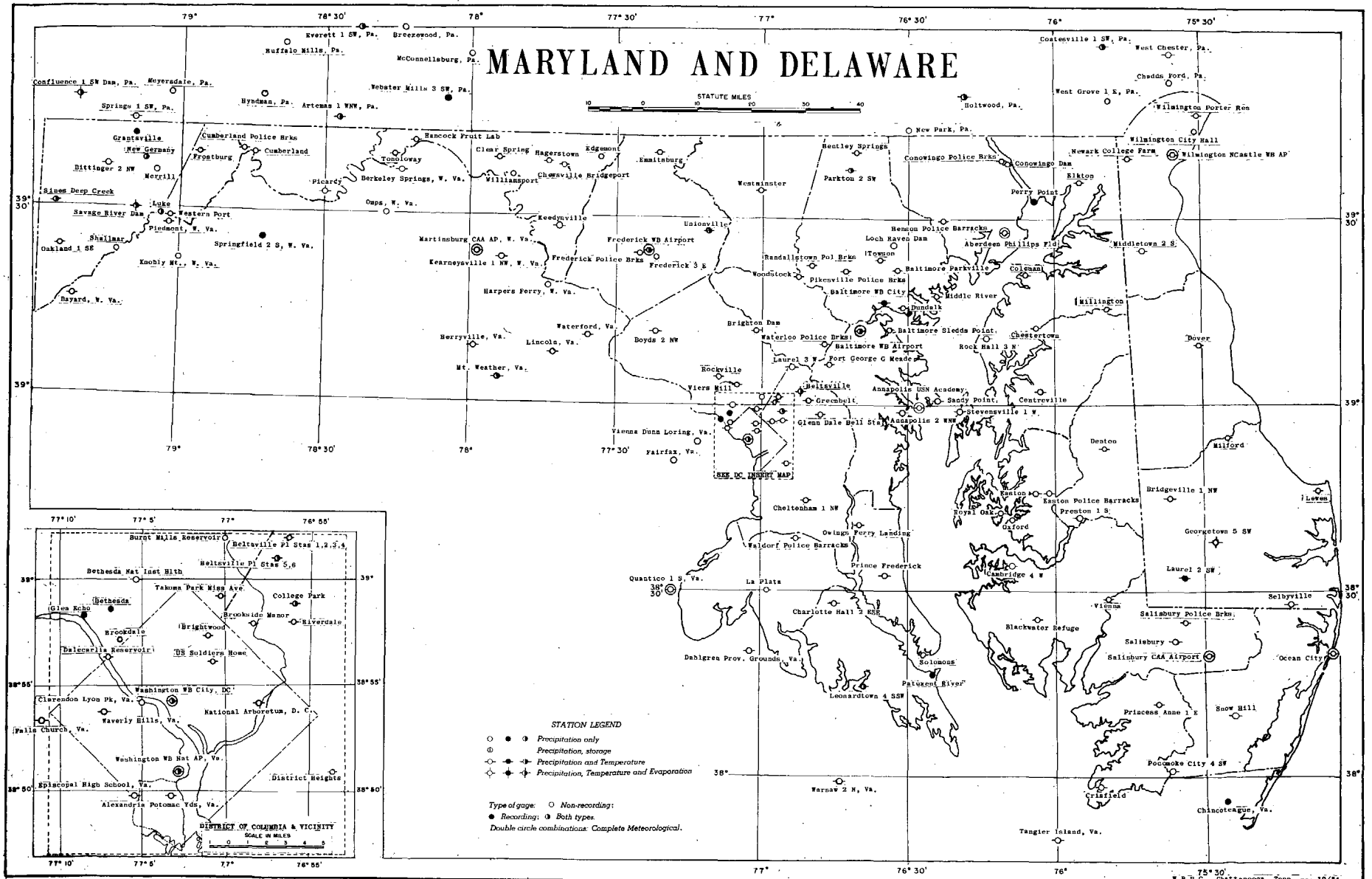
MARYLAND AND DELAWARE
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TABLE 2 - CONTINUED

Station	Temperature											Precipitation												
	Average Maximum	Average Minimum	Average	Departure From Normal	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Degree Days	No. of Days				Total	Departure From Normal	Greatest Day	Date	Snow, Sleet, Hail			No. of Days			
										90° or Above	32° or Below	32° or Below	32° or Below					Total	Total	Max. Depth on Ground	Date	.10 or More	.50 or More	
																								Max.
STEVENSVILLE 1 W	66.5	47.0	56.8		76	10+	35	8	241	0	0	0	0	2.87		.53	12	.0	0	0	9	1	0	
TAKOMA PARK MISS AVE	69.0M	47.3M	58.2M	3.9	81	23	31	8	205	0	0	1	0	3.32	.32	1.14	14	.0	0	0	7	2	1	
TOWNSON	68.3	43.3	55.8	4.9	83	19	28	5	267	0	0	2	0	3.05	.47	1.07	25	.0	0	0	7	1	1	
UNIONVILLE	69.1	44.0	56.6	3.6	80	19+	30	8	252	0	0	1	0	3.21	.65	.87	14	.0	0	0	7	3	0	
VIENNA	66.9	42.0	54.5	3.7	80	23	24	5	310	0	0	6	0	2.52	.14	.55	25	.0	0	0	7	1	0	
VIENNA	68.5	46.5	57.5		81	19+	33	8	221	0	0	0	0	2.77		.72	25	.0	0	0	5	2	0	
VIERS MILL	70.6M	43.9	57.3M		82	23	28	5	153	0	0	1	0	2.76		.66	12	.0	0	0	7	2	0	
WALDORF POLICE BRKS	71.6M	44.3	58.0M		87	19	29	1+	144	0	0	3	0	3.69		.73	12	.0	0	0	9	2	0	
WATERLOO POLICE BRKS	69.1	43.1M	56.1M		80	10	27	9	180	0	0	3	0			.90	14	.0	0	0	0	0	0	
WESTERN PORT	70.0	43.5	56.8	4.9	84	19	31	1+	247	0	0	4	0	2.96	.16	1.15	25	.0	0	0	8	1	1	
WESTMINSTER	66.5	45.0	55.8	3.9	80	19	28	8	271	0	0	2	0	2.85	.60	.53	22	.0	0	0	8	1	0	
WOODSTOCK	68.0	43.3	55.7	3.5	80	19+	27	5	274	0	0	3	0	2.02	1.26	.50	26	.0	0	0	5	1	0	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA																								
DALECARLIA RESERVOIR DC	70.5	46.7	58.6		83	23	32	1+	200	0	0	2	0	2.95		.70	14	.0	0	0	8	2	0	
NATIONAL ARBORETUM D C	71.3	48.4	59.9		83	23	35	5	160	0	0	0	0	2.68		.80	14	.0	0	0	8	2	0	
U S SOLDIERS HOME D C	67.1	47.4	57.3		83	24	34	8	239	0	0	0	0	2.88		.84	15	.0	0	0	7	3	0	
WASHINGTON WB CITY DC	68.6	48.7	58.7	4.0	83	23	37	8	197	0	0	0	0	2.74	.45	1.05	14	.0	0	0	7	1	1	
MARYLAND AND D C																								
DELAWARE																								
BRIDGEVILLE 1 NW	67.1	45.5	56.3	3.3	81	19	32	5+	255	0	0	2	0	3.81	.32	1.46	25	.0	0	0	6	3	1	
DOVER	67.4	46.6	57.0	3.8	79	11+	33	8	234	0	0	0	0	2.71	.87	.65	12	.0	0	0	9	2	0	
GEORGETOWN 5 SW	68.3	45.3	56.8		81	19+	27	5	242	0	0	3	0	2.62		.71	12	.0	0	0	5	3	0	
LENES	65.6	44.6	53.1		82	19	31	9	294	0	0	3	0	3.01		.98	13	.0	0	0	7	2	0	
MIDDLETOWN 2 S	67.1	45.1	56.1		80	11	30	8	261	0	0	1	0	2.26		.57	26	.0	0	0	6	1	0	
MILFORD	66.9	46.2	56.6	3.0	82	19	33	5	245	0	0	0	0	3.83	.15	.95	24	.0	0	0	8	3	0	
NEWARK COLLEGE FARM	66.6	43.9	55.3	4.2	80	11	31	8+	288	0	0	2	0	2.91	.54	1.00	12	.0	0	0	6	1	1	
SELBYVILLE	66.9	45.4	56.2		82	19	30	8	258	0	0	3	0	2.18		.83	12	.0	0	0	5	2	0	
WILMINGTON NEWSTL WB AP	65.0	44.6	54.8	3.0	81	11	32	8	300	0	0	1	0	2.55	1.09	.89	12	.0	0	0	8	1	0	
WILMINGTON PORTER RESVR	63.5	44.5	54.0	1.9	78	11	32	8	322	0	0	1	0	2.28	1.54	.65	12	.0	0	0	8	1	0	
STATE			55.8	3.0										2.91	.72			.0						
SECTION			56.7	4.2										2.94	.56			T						

† DATA RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE INCLUDED IN STATE AVERAGES

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE



Hourly precipitation data from recorder stations will be available in the publication "Hourly Precipitation Data".