

The Pennsylvania Observer

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September 2010 – Pennsylvania Weather Recap

Written by: Nicole Papay

Glorious clear skies and very warm weather started the month of September in 2010. During the first 3 days of the month, Pennsylvania experienced a heat wave with temperatures soaring into the 90's, leaving the normal averages for this time of year behind by more than 10 degrees. Throughout the month, temperatures jumped from well above to well below the averages. In the last week of the month, September 21-25, a heat wave overtook the state. Records broke on both sides of the state during this time period, with highs of 90 degrees in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh breaking the records set in the 1930's. Philadelphia marked its 55th day at or above 90F setting a new all-time record.

Much, if not all, of the state was averaging well below normal rainfall. For the first 3 weeks of the month, Pennsylvania averaged 50-75% below the normal amount of rain. Overall Pennsylvania, excluding only the southwestern corner of the state, had 22 days with no precipitation at all. By the end of the month, 24 counties were categorized in a drought warning, while the remainder of the state was under a drought watch. However, September was an unusually active month for Atlantic tropical storm activity. 10 named storms occurred during this time period. The remnants of Nicole, the last named storm in September, brought torrential rains and flash floods up the coast and inland alleviating drought conditions for at least the eastern half of the state.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during September 2010 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	Reading	99°F	September 2 nd	Berks
Lowest Temperature	Clarence	32°F	September 7 th	Centre
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Pennsburg	*9.24"	-	Bucks
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Warren	2.06"	-	Warren

* Cumulative liquid precipitation value includes the end of the month rain storm which ended on October 1, 2010.

Pennsylvania Weather Stories

Heavy rains flood roadways, knock out power in Pa.

<http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=5459552>

Centre County avoids rain problems

<http://www.centredaily.com/2010/09/30/2243394/centre-county-avoids-rain-problems.html>

Erie region likely bright spot in Pa. for fall foliage

<http://www.goerie.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100926/NEWS02/309249855/0/news>

Drought makes foliage peak early

<http://www.dailyamerican.com/articles/2010/09/25/news/local/news090.txt>

DEP issues drought watch

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4514483>

Storms left area damaged, powerless

http://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/local/article_42d31320-c78b-11df-9418-001cc4c002e0.html