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October 2010 – Pennsylvania Weather Recap

Written by: Nicholas Vita

The heavy rain that plagued the state on September 30th from the remnants of Nicole, carried over to the first of October for the eastern portions of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia and Allentown broke their 24 hour rainfall record on this date in receiving 3.00” and 2.35” consecutively. Below normal temperatures followed the storm as Philadelphia tied its record low max temperature of 55°F on October 4th. Cool weather continued for a few days before a rebound back into the upper 70s and lower 80s occurred for most places. This allowed for a brief severe weather outbreak ahead of a cold front across the northern tier and eastern portions of the state as there were some hail and wind damage reports on October 11th.

After the brief warm-up, temperatures returned to near or below average for much of the middle of October. During this time, Wilkes-Barre International Airport in Avoca, PA set a record snowfall of a trace on October 22nd which tied the old record set back in 1988. Starting the 23rd, warm air returned causing a record high of 75°F in Philadelphia on October 25th. This warm air was pushed ahead of a massive low pressure system in the upper Midwest. That storm brought blizzard conditions to the northern Great Plains along with tornadoes and severe weather to the Ohio River Valley. The line of severe weather made it into Pennsylvania on October 26th causing wind damage in western portions of the state. Wind gusts were recorded at over 50 mph. Following the storm, below average temps returned too much of the state. There were a total of 9 wind damage reports and 3 hail reports during October.

Overall, October was a bit above average temperature with Mount Pocono at 2.3°F above average. Precipitation varied across the state with well above average amounts in the northeast and below average in the central and southwest sections.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during October 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	Slippery Rock	88°F	October 11 th	Butler
Lowest Temperature	Oswayo	23°F	October 18 th	Potter
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Jim Thorpe	14.55"	-	Carbon
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Butler	2.44"	-	Butler

Weather Stories

Weather lowers mushroom volumes

<http://thepacker.com/Weather-lowers-mushroom-volumes/Article.aspx?oid=1277787&fid=PACKER-CROPS-AND-MARKETS&aid=684>

Sweeter, brighter apples signal end of strange growing season

<http://live.psu.edu/story/49166>

Rain continues to elude southern Somerset County

<http://www.dailyamerican.com/articles/2010/10/19/news/local/news085.txt>

Warm, dry summer could mean great wines from Pa.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10289/1095613-34.stm>