

targeting residents along the east-west portion of Woodmoor Drive. It is important that residents respond to be eligible for money to complete mitigation.

- Vice President Peter Bille said he would have information on the costs of replacing IT systems available for the next board meeting.
- Brown said that 37 liens had been filed against properties.
- Director Ed Miller reported that a \$5,000 fine had been issued for an open fire during a stage 2 fire ban.
- Miller said there are a lot of residents warehous-

ing trailers, recreational vehicles, and boats on their property, which is not allowed. Letters have been sent with minimal response, so the next step is to issue violations.

- WPS Chief Nielsen has been invited by the Lewis-Palmer school board to be recognized at the next board meeting for WPS' partnership with the schools.
- The board reminds residents to secure trash cans and bring in bird food as bears are not expected to hibernate until the end of November.
- Seven new pet waste stations have been installed in Woodmoor open spaces; pet waste re-

moval service is provided by The Scoop.

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The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting has been moved to Nov. 18 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

The WIA calendar can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/](http://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/). WIA board meeting minutes can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/](http://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/) once approved and posted.

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## October Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

October was very similar to September—mostly dry and warm interrupted by a powerful, record cold storm. With the exception of the record cold storm on the 25th and 26th, almost no measurable precipitation occurred, which is extremely unusual. This of course comes on the heels of below normal precipitation from July to September. The dry and warm weather from summer through fall is also one of the reasons we saw so many extreme fires continue so late in the season in the mountains.

And this was the story for the first week and a half of the month, as large fires in the northern mountains of Colorado resulted in daily occurrences of smoke-filled air. Some days were worse than others depending on the direction of the prevailing winds and how active a given fire was. Temperatures during the first few days of the month were right around normal, with 60s to low 70s for highs and overnight lows in the 30s.

Warmer air began to work into the region starting on the 5th, with highs jumping to the upper 70s and low 80s through the 10th. Record highs were set on the 7th and 8th around much the region as well. Temperatures cooled slightly from the 11-13th, with overnight lows dipping below freezing each morning. Temperatures jumped back to the upper 70s on the 14th ahead of a cold front that moved through that afternoon. This brought with it our first below-normal temperatures of the month, along with some fog, low clouds, and a little freezing drizzle. It was a subtle reminder that the dry, warm weather couldn't last forever.

Highs were in the 40s on the 15th, upper 50s on the 16th, and low 70s on the 17th before another similar cold front moved through during the morning of the 18th. Again, this front was starved of moisture so all we got was some fog, low clouds, and freezing drizzle.

Warm air moved back in again over the next few days, with highs back in the 60s to low 70s from the 19th to the 22nd, when once again another shallow and dry cold front moved in during the midafternoon of the 22nd. Highs were held in the low to mid-20s on the 23rd, along with fog, low clouds, freezing drizzle, and flurries. But just like the previous cold fronts, there was no significant moisture and as the cold air retreated on the 24th, highs jumped right back into the 70s.

However, the next storm was knocking on our doorstep, and this one meant business. The initial cold front with this one moved through during the midafternoon of the 24th, with progressively colder air continuing to filter in during the evening and throughout the next day. Temperatures were in the mid-20s as we crossed midnight, then continued to fall throughout the morning and afternoon. Daytime temperatures never got above 100F. Light snow developed just before sunrise that morning and continued throughout the day. The record cold temperature meant that the snow had no problem sticking to the roads as well, making for our first wintry driving day since last spring.

As the snow came to an end during the early evening hours of the 26th, skies began to clear out, and with the Arctic air mass still in place, temperatures tumbled to record low levels, reaching below zero in many locations by mid-evening. Fortunately for us, some light drainage winds kicked in during the overnight hours and helped "warm" temperatures through that evening and into the next morning. Our high temperature on the 26th was actually reached just before midnight when we hit 110F—very unusual. The storm dropped anywhere from 4-8 inches of snow for our region, with the heaviest snow falling to our south, where places like Walsenburg got over 2 feet!

Unfortunately, the air mass was so cold that the



**Above:** On Oct. 11, the continuation of unseasonably warm temperatures and drought conditions showed its effects on Palmer Lake as more of the shoreline became exposed each day. Photo by David Futey.

moisture content of the snow was very low, with only a quarter to a half inch of liquid equivalent falling, definitely not enough to get us out of drought conditions. The most extreme portion of the storm was the cold, with all-time monthly record low maximum temperatures set and record lows of below zero at many locations. We may have set an all-time record low for Colorado for the month of October when Hebron (in the North Park region near Walden) hit an amazing -330F!

Unfortunately, this storm moved out of the region the next day, bringing record snow and cold to New Mexico but dry weather for us. Temperatures began their slow climb through the 40s on the 27th and 28th, the upper 50s and low 60s as we ended the month.

### A look ahead

November is generally dry and cool around the region. We usually get several light snowfalls interspersed with sunny skies. Gusty winds commonly develop on a couple of days as the jet stream becomes more active and more directly affects Colorado. High

temperatures average in the upper 40s early in the month to low 40s by the end with overnight lows often dipping into the teens and single digits.

### October 2020 Weather Statistics

Average High	62.0° (+2.5°)
100-year return frequency value max	67.7° min 50.7°
Average Low	29.6° (+0.3°)
100-year return frequency value max	36.8° min 26.4°
Monthly Precipitation	0.27" (-1.46")
100-year return frequency value max	4.63" min 0.18"
Monthly Snowfall	4.5" (-6.5")
Highest Temperature	81° on the 8th
Lowest Temperature	-1° on the 26th
Season to Date Snow	4.5" (-6.5")
<i>(the snow season, October 1 to September 30)</i>	
Season to Date Precip.	0.27" (-1.46")
<i>(the precip season, October 1 to September 30)</i>	
Heating Degree Days	595 (+67)
Cooling Degree Days	0 (0)

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## Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters are on page 31.

*Disclaimer: The information and opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community are the responsibility of the letter writers and should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer.*

### Proud parents of first-generation seekers of college education

I read with interest the letter submitted in your newspaper's Oct. 3, 2020 edition answering the question about Dems losing the non-college-educated white male vote.

I did not see the CNN report referenced in this letter to the community, but I have to say I believe quite a few American families for many generations now have viewed the opportunity to extend their children's education past high school as a great gift one generation makes possible for the next. I know in my own family this was true. My mother's parents both quit school after the eighth grade and went to work on the south side of Chicago. My grandpa was an auto

mechanic. My grandparents were both determined that their son and daughter would be the first generation to go to college. They were so proud when this goal was achieved.

My mother had enormous respect for her parents, for the sacrifices they made, and for their steadfast belief in the American dream. They owned their own home, and they sent their kids to college.

Incidentally, on my father's side the story is similar. My father's mother, a widow trying to keep a farm in northwest Missouri through the Depression era, was determined her sons would not be farmers. They both went to West Point.

I don't see any humiliation in these great American stories and can't make the leap to Dems casting their votes based on a sense of victimhood. If young people today act entitled, if they treat their own non-college-educated parents as losers, then I have to wonder if that says more about parenting trends than it does politics.

Marcia Carteret ■