

The statute sets out requirements, education, and testing for licenses, as well as criminal background checks and payment of fees. It provides for complaints against managers under certain conditions.

The next meeting of NEPCO is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Monument Town Hall. NEPCO can be visited at www.NEPCO.org. Larry J. Oliver is the NEPCO facilitator.

June & July 2014 Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

June was warmer and drier than normal for most of us. Heavy rains did fall at times, but they were generally hit and miss, with the most active conditions off just to our north and east.

Sunny, breezy, and mild to start off the month of June. No thunderstorms developed during the first three days of the month, which is unusual for this time of the year. The good news, all the moisture in May has helped to "green" everything up and therefore fire danger was low. High temperatures reached the upper 70's to low 80's each afternoon, with overnight lows only dipping into the upper 40's.

Active weather was prevalent over the region from the 5-8th, as high levels of moisture surged in from the east and combined with several short waves of energy moving through at upper levels of the atmosphere. This combined to provide the moisture and lift necessary to spark strong to severe thunderstorms each day. Storms developed by late morning and early afternoon and moved generally from west to east from the mountains through the eastern plains. Several reports of large hail, damaging winds, and even tornadoes were reported. Although tornadoes are not uncommon on the eastern plains of Colorado, tornado storms in the high country are rare. However, on Sunday the 8th at least two touched down in Park County, one near Fairplay and one near Lake George. In addition, a tornado was reported just to our north starting about 5 miles east/northeast of Palmer Lake and moving across highway 83 in southern Douglas County. Each round of storms dropped heavy rain as well, helping to add to our above normal moisture levels this spring. Of course, the flash flood potential continues to be a problem over the burn scars and will have to be monitored closely for the next several years.

With all the daily clouds and moisture, temperatures were held to below normal levels for the period. Highs reached the mid 70's on the 5th and 6th, then only mid 60's on the 7-8th. Total rainfall accumulations were highly variable, depending on whether any of the storms moved directly over a given location. Most of us picked up a half inch to two inches of rainfall during the period.

Unsettled and cooler than normal conditions continued over the next several days. High temperatures were in the 60's and 70's from the 9th through the 12th. In addition, high levels of moisture in the region allowed low clouds and fog to develop on several mornings. This also slowed the heating and delayed the start of thunderstorm development. However, when storms did finally break loose, some became severe, with large hail the main issue. Drier and warmer air then moved into the region through the weekend. Highs jumped back to normal levels, in the low 80's. The weather pattern was quiet, with afternoon clouds building. However, the dry lower layers of the atmosphere meant very little rainfall reached the ground.

The last two weeks of June had several bouts of severe weather interspersed with mild and dry conditions. Unfortunately, most of the storms which developed were not able to tap into low level moisture until moving just east of the Palmer Divide. This meant little widespread rain, instead rainfall was very hit and miss. Some of us received heavy rain with the storms, others not much. Overall, we were drier than normal over the last

two weeks. Temperatures varied between slightly below normal and slightly above normal depending on whether the day started off with low clouds and when storms developed. Several days were mostly sunny, allowing temperatures to rise as high as the mid and upper 80's at times. Highs reached the low to mid 80's from the 24th through the 26th, before a brief cool down on the 27th. Then jumped back to mid to upper 80's on the 28th and 29th, making for a warm, dry weekend. June ended with dry conditions continuing, as temperatures soared into the upper 80's and low 90's to end the month.

More normal levels of moisture returned to the region in July, as the Southwest Monsoon season kicked in right on time. This allowed moist air to saturate much of the atmosphere. When these high levels of moisture combined with heating from the strong July sun as well as lift in the atmosphere associated with waves of energy moving through, heaving rain and strong thunderstorms were often the result. Rainfall for the month was right around normal, with an average of 3 inches accumulated. However, as is often the case, some areas received much more and other less, depending on whether you were under one or more of the heavy downpours.

July started off with a cool front pushing through the region, bringing upslope conditions and higher levels of moisture. This led to areas of low clouds on both the 1st and 2nd and held temperatures to well below normal levels. Highs only reached into the mid and upper 60's both afternoons. However, warm, dry air quickly returned just in time for the Fourth of July weekend. Sunny skies in the morning gave way to afternoon clouds and a few rumbles of thunder, but not before temperatures reached the upper 80's to low 90's. A few scattered showers did develop, but nothing substantial accumulated over the holiday weekend.

Temperatures reached the low 90's on the 6th and 7th, continuing the warm conditions experienced over the Fourth of July weekend. Afternoon thunderstorms developed and accumulated light rainfall amounts across the region. Storms were stronger to our east, and the cool, moist out flows from these storms allowed high levels of moisture to bank up against the Palmer Divide. This kept temperatures much cooler the next day, with highs only reaching the mid 60's on the 8th. The moist, cool air was quickly replaced the next day with dry conditions. This allowed temperatures to jump back into the mid and upper 80's from the 9th through the 11th. Areas of storms did develop, but for the most part were east of the region. High levels of moisture did return over the weekend, as monsoonal moisture moved north. This allowed for slow moving, heavy downpours to develop. Most areas around the Tri-Lakes region picked up over an inch of rain over the weekend, with some localized areas getting hit with over 4 inches! After a drier than normal June, the moisture is a welcome site, but not all at once.

High levels of moisture were prevalent for most of the week of the 14th around the region, and when combined with morning sunshine and warm temperatures, strong to severe thunderstorms were the result. Several rounds of heavy rainfall affected the area, especially from the south side of the Tri-Lakes through Colorado Springs. Flash flooding hit the Waldo Canyon burn scar and Colorado Springs on the 14th and 15th. Although much of the heaviest rains accumulated just south of us, we managed to do quite well, with well over an inch for most areas between the 15th and 16th. Drier air quickly returned for the re-

mainder of the week, as low level moisture was pushed off the east starting on the 17th. This resulted in isolated afternoon and early evening thunderstorms which produced only brief rain showers, as most of the rainfall evaporated before reaching the ground. Temperatures were coolest during the first few days of the week, as the higher levels of moisture kept a lid on things. Highs jumped back to normal and slightly above normal, with mid to upper 80's from the 18th through the 20th.

Warm and mainly dry weather prevailed on the 22nd and 23rd, as highs reached the upper 80's and no rainfall accumulated. Warm conditions continued over the next few days, but high amounts of moisture allowed afternoon and evening thunderstorms to develop to our west and move across the area each day. Temperatures soared into the upper 80's and low 90's before the rain cooled air put things in check during the afternoon and evening. From the 24th through the 26th, most of us received another inch of rainfall. However, some areas just south and west of the Tri-Lakes region were again hit hard with heavy rain on the afternoon and evening of the 27th. The high levels of moisture combined with very slow storm movement to produce 1- inches of rain over a short timeframe. Flash flooding was again a problem in the foothills to the west and in much of Colorado Springs.

Higher than normal levels of moisture continued to be in place through the end of the month. This led to areas of heavy rain and flash flooding each afternoon and evening across portions of the Front Range and foothills. The moisture of course is very welcome, but it would be better to have is spread out over several days instead of all at once.

A Look Ahead

August is the last true "summer" month for the region. We are often greeted with sunny, pleasant mornings that turn into afternoon and early evening thunderstorms. Highs during the month range from the mid 80's at the beginning of the month to mid 70's at the end. Temperatures at night get more comfortable as well, often dipping into the 40's, making for better sleeping weather.

June 2014 Weather Statistics

Average High	78.1° (+0.8°)
100-year return frequency value	max 82.5° min 66.3°
Average Low	44.7° (+0.4°)
100-year return frequency value	max 50.7° min 40.2°
Highest Temperature	91°F on the 30th
Lowest Temperature	35°F on the 9th
Monthly Precipitation	0.71"
	(-1.25" 64% below normal)
100-year return frequency value	max 6.94" min 0.15"
Monthly Snowfall	0.0"
	(-0.1" 100% below normal)
Season to Date Snow	99.4"
	(-25.5" 20% below normal)
	(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
Season to Date Precip	22.27"
	(+1.85" 10% above normal)
	(the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
Heating Degree Days	125 (-25)
Cooling Degree Days	17 (-12)

July 2013 Weather Statistics

Average High	82.6° (0.0°)
100-year return frequency value	max 87.6° min 75.3°
Average Low	52.3° (+2.6°)
100-year return frequency value	max 56.2° min 46.9°
Highest Temperature	92°F on the 24th
Lowest Temperature	45°F on the 17th
Monthly Precipitation	3.51"
	(+0.37" 10% above normal)
100-year return frequency value	max 6.03" min 0.98"
Monthly Snowfall	0.0"
Season to Date Snow	0.0"
	(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
Season to Date Precip	3.51"
	(+0.37" 10% above normal)
	(the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
Heating Degree Days	32 (+3)
Cooling Degree Days	75 (-16)

For more detailed weather information and Climatology of the Palmer Divide and Tri-Lakes region, please visit Bill Kappel's Weather Web Page at www.thekappels.com/Weather.htm.

Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at billkappel@ocn.me



!!HELP WANTED!!

Kids' Adventures is a before and after school child care company. We are seeking qualified and energetic program leaders & directors to work in the Monument School district for the upcoming school year. Please email resumes to baudreyka@gmail.com, call 303.699.1561, or visit www.kidsadventures.org.



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We have several areas in which we could use some help:

- ◆ Bookkeeping with Excel spreadsheet experience on online checkbook
- ◆ Mailing Day – once a month
 - two hours, morning, moving tubs and counting papers
 - two hours, afternoon, delivering papers to local businesses on our list
- ◆ Ad Sales Coordinator – lots of emails and phone calls with local businesses, finalizing that month's ads graphics and costs. Experience with Excel
- ◆ Ad Sales Help – email, visit, or call local businesses on our ideas list to tell them about OCN's great rates and monthly delivery directly to 16,000 Tri-Lakes area mailboxes
- ◆ Ad Layout – Interested individuals should be familiar with some vector image editing software (e.g. Adobe Illustrator, CorelDraw, MS PowerPoint, Open Office Draw, MS Publisher, Adobe InDesign) and raster image editing software (e.g. Adobe Photoshop, Corel Photo-Paint, MS Paint, Gimp) to create ads
- ◆ Reporter for Triview Metropolitan District, Monument Board of Trustees, or other meetings – attend and record public meetings and write the article telling "what was discussed and what was decided?" with our training

Please text/call Lisa at 719-339-7831 or write to editor@ocn.me to find out more