

days families have more vehicles as kids begin to drive in addition to parents or adult children return home due to economic difficulties. He further noted that the board receives on average three variance requests per month, requesting at most three cars. The proposal passed on a unanimous vote.

**Other business**

- The board unanimously voted to begin foreclosure proceedings on lot 41WCC as discussed in executive session.
- There has been an increase in bear sightings and

residents are reminded to store pet food and trash indoors.

- There has also been an increase in reports of solicitors ranging from cleaning products to water conservation to magazine sales. Solicitors have a first amendment right but once asked to leave may be cited for trespassing.
- A meeting was held in August to review the WIA covenants. A second meeting will be held on Sept. 21 at 6:30 pm at The Barn for further review and a discussion on how to get them approved.

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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 will be on Sept. 23. WIA board meeting minutes can be found at: <http://www.woodmoor.org/content/admin-bod-meeting-minutes.html> once approved and posted.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at [jackieburhans@ocn.me](mailto:jackieburhans@ocn.me).

## August 2015 Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

After several months of cool and wet weather, August finally produced higher than average temperatures and generally drier than normal conditions. Temperatures averaged around 2°F warmer than normal for the month, while precipitation was slightly lower than average. Once again, we failed to reach the 90°F mark for the month, thereby almost guaranteeing this will end up being one of those rare summers where we don't reach 90°F for most locations above 7,000 feet.

August started off mild and mainly dry, with just a couple scattered afternoon and evening thunderstorms. These produced some light rainfall on the afternoon of the 2nd. Temperatures reached the low to mid-80s on the 1st and 2nd, which is just slightly warmer than normal for this time of the year. But again, because of all the moisture in the region the last few months, temperatures were held down slightly lower than would otherwise be expected because so much of the sun's energy was going toward evaporating moisture instead of heating the air.

It was a dry and warm start to August. After a few thunderstorms and light rain on the 3rd held highs to below normal levels, highs reached the low to mid-80s from the 4th through the 8th. During this time, only a few isolated storms developed, with almost no rainfall during the period. Moisture moved back into the region late in the weekend, as the area of high pressure that had been blocking moisture from moving into the region finally shifted further to the east. As this happened, monsoonal moisture owed back into the area and widespread thunderstorms developed. These storms produced from a 1/10th to a half inch of rain and signaled the start of another wet period around the region.

An unsettled pattern returned during the week of August 10th. Thunderstorms and at times heavy rainfall occurred on a couple of afternoons. Temperatures were below normal on the 10th and 11th, with highs in the mid-70s. Plenty of clouds were around each day, with scattered thunderstorms in the morning and afternoon on the 10th. A few sprinkles developed the next afternoon. Drier air continued to dominate over the next two days and temperatures responded. Highs reached well into the 80s from the 12th through the 16th, peaking with upper 80s—our warmest temperatures of the summer—on the 15th. Only a couple of sprinkles developed on the 12th, then conditions were dry on the 13th. A few thunderstorms developed on the afternoon of the 14th, but on the light rain fell. Heavy rain occurred with the thunderstorms over the weekend, with over an inch accumulated late Saturday afternoon in a short time with some of the storms.

A continuation of the active and wet weather stuck around for the beginning of the week of the 17th. Strong thunderstorms with brief heavy rain occurred on the 17th, then more storms during the afternoon and evening of the 18th. Cooler air filtered in behind the system that was responsible for these storm, with highs holding in the low to mid-60s on the 19th. This front gave us our first taste of fall-like conditions and was probably a little early for most of us. High pressure built back into the region from the Southwest over the rest of the week. This brought dry and warm air with it. It also locked in lots of smoke from the wildfires in the Pacific Northwest. So, we were warm, dry and smoky from the 20th through the 23rd. A quick moving cold front did pass through late on the 22nd and held highs to the upper 60s and low 70s on the 23rd. This cooler, dry air mass combined with the slightly longer nights to produce lows that reached the upper 30s and low 40s that morning.

The month ended with generally mild to warm weather and mainly dry conditions. Temperatures jumped back into the low to mid-80s from the 24th through the 26th. An isolated round of thunderstorms developed during the

late afternoon on the 27th that brought our only measurable rain during the period. This line of thunderstorms put down a half to over 1 inch of rain in about a half hour as they moved through. Temperatures again moved to above normal levels during the last weekend of the month, reaching into the mid- and upper 80s on Sunday the 30th. A strong push of monsoonal moisture made a final appearance on the 31st, producing mostly cloudy skies and area of thunderstorms and rain showers.

**A look ahead**

September is a transition month for the region, with the last tastes of summer mixed in with our first morning freezes. Leaves begin to change by the end of the month as well, and it's not uncommon for some snow to fall. The overall weather pattern is generally one of tranquility, with our chances for thunderstorms dwindling and blizzard conditions not quite ready for prime time. We are often greeted with sunny, pleasant afternoons, with highs from the mid-70s early in the month to the mid-60s later in the month. Our first sub-freezing low temperatures usually occur during the third week of the month, so prepare those tender plants.

**August 2014 Weather Statistics**

- Average High **80.9°** (+2.7) 100-year return frequency value max **83.9°** min **72.9°**
- Average Low **50.1°** (+0.9) 100-year return frequency value max **55.2°** min **46.8°**
- Monthly Precipitation **1.92"** (-1.06", 36% below normal) 100-year return frequency value max **6.07"** min **0.94"**
- Monthly Snowfall **0.0"**
- Highest Temperature **89°** on the 15<sup>th</sup>

- Lowest Temperature **40°** on the 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Season to Date Snow **0.0"** (the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
  - Season to Date Precip. **6.64"** (+0.41", 7% above normal) (the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
  - Heating Degree Days **41** (-22)
  - Cooling Degree Days **57** (+16)
- Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at [billkappel@ocn.me](mailto:billkappel@ocn.me)

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