



COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



GEORGE F. WAGNER
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY
gwagner@co.hunterdon.nj.us

BRAYDEN J. FAHEY
COORDINATOR
bfahey@co.hunterdon.nj.us

VOICE TELEPHONE: 908-788-1196
FAX MACHINE: 908-782-0057

201 Cherryville Road
PO Box 2900
Flemington, New Jersey 08822

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Contact: Brayden Fahey, 908-788-1196

“NWS: Early Season Heat Wave Expected for New Jersey”

FLEMINGTON, NJ – The National Weather Service has issued the word that beginning today temperatures will be on the rise, lasting into through the week. Thursday, Friday and Saturday are forecast to be the hottest days of the stretch, with high temperatures above 90 degrees, without factoring the heat index into the equation.

In 2012 the National Weather Service warned, “... heat related fatalities were the second highest among all the weather related deaths, second only to tornadoes and more than doubling all other causative factors including flood, lighting, hurricane and winter. The 10 year average also ranks heat as the second greatest weather related cause of fatalities, and according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, heat stroke is the leading cause of non-crash vehicle deaths for children under the age of 14. They document at least 27 deaths per year.”

“One of the greatest heat related dangers is leaving children or pets in unattended vehicles. Our 9-1-1 system receives calls daily about these types of incidents and the public needs to be aware that this practice can have fatal results,” says Brayden Fahey, Emergency Management Coordinator for Hunterdon County.

“Each year, dozens of children and untold numbers of pets left in parked vehicles die from hyperthermia. Hyperthermia is an acute condition that occurs when the body absorbs more heat than it can handle. Hyperthermia can occur even on a mild day. Studies have shown that the temperature inside a parked vehicle can rapidly rise to a dangerous level for children, pets and even adults. Leaving the windows slightly open does not significantly decrease the heating rate. The effects can be more severe on children because their bodies warm at a faster rate than adults.” (NWS)

The Hunterdon County Emergency Management Division is urging residents and visitors to be prepared for the conditions as they are presently forecast. Coordinator Fahey outlines, “A heat wave is generally classified as three or more consecutive days of temperatures reaching or exceeding 90 degrees. Since we are expecting that to occur Thursday through Saturday, and coming close again on Sunday, we urge everyone to take these early summer conditions seriously. We would like to remind everyone that the elderly, young children and infants and those who are medically compromised are most susceptible to feeling the effects of the heat. We are recommending everyone limit their time outdoors today through Sunday, as temperatures should become closer to normal on Monday. Take a minute and check in on elderly neighbors or

family members to be sure they are prepared for conditions that are currently forecast. Do not leave children or pets in vehicles without the air conditioning on. Take this opportunity to test your air conditioning so you can identify any potential problems before higher temperatures occur later in the summer. If you will be trying to avoid the heat in a pool, or other body of water be sure that you do so safely.”

Fahey recommends residents and visitors to monitor future forecasts from the National Weather Service, as well as other news releases. “Our office will continue to monitor this event through the week. We share information received from the National Weather Service with the first responder community, local emergency management offices, other county departments and divisions, as well as partners in the private sector, to ensure continuity and preparedness across all levels of government. We encourage residents without air conditioning to take advantage of the cooling centers (located below) that will be open during their normal hours of operation. It is also important for those without air conditioning to consider the possibility of staying with friends or family who have AC in their homes, or visiting shopping centers or other public buildings that can provide relief from the heat.”

Hunterdon County Identified Cooling Centers

Hunterdon County Library North Campus – 65 Halstead St Clinton, NJ 08809

Hunterdon County Library Main Campus – 314 Rt 12 Flemington, NJ 08822

Hunterdon County Library South Campus - 1108A Old York Rd Ringoes, NJ 08551

Hunterdon County forecast (Flemington):

Thursday May 30th: Sunny with a high near 90.

Friday May 31st: Sunny, with a high near 93.

Saturday June 1st: Mostly sunny, with a high near 90

Sunday June 2nd: Partly sunny, high near 87, chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Below are some tips for dealing with excessive heat:

- AIR-CONDITIONING IS THE NUMBER ONE PROTECTIVE FACTOR AGAINST HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS AND DEATH. DURING CONDITIONS OF EXTREME HEAT, SPEND TIME IN LOCATIONS WITH AIR-CONDITIONING SUCH AS SHOPPING MALLS, PUBLIC LIBRARIES, ETC.
- GET INFORMED. LISTEN TO LOCAL NEWS AND WEATHER CHANNELS AND MONITOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION’S INTERNET OUTLETS AT:
 - o WWW.CO.HUNTERDON.NJ.US/OEM.HTML
 - o WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HUNTERDONCOUNTYDOP
- DRINK COOL, NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND INCREASE YOUR FLUID INTAKE, REGARDLESS OF YOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL.
- NEVER EVER LEAVE ANYONE INSIDE A PARKED CAR. THAT INCLUDES CHILDREN, THE ELDERLY, PETS. NOAA’S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ADVISES THAT EVEN WHEN ITS ONLY 80 DEGREES OUTSIDE, IT CAN TAKE JUST TWO MINUTES FOR THE INSIDE OF YOUR CAR TO HEAT UP TO 123 DEGREES.

- HEAT STRESS FROM EXERTION OR WORKING IN HOT ENVIRONMENTS PLACES YOU AT RISK FOR ILLNESSES SUCH AS HEAT STROKE, HEAT EXHAUSTION, OR HEAT CRAMPS. STUDIES INDICATE THAT, OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL, THE SEVERITY OF HEAT DISORDERS TEND TO INCREASE WITH AGE. CONDITIONS THAT CAUSE CRAMPS IN A 17 YEAR OLD MAY RESULT IN HEAT EXHAUSTION FOR SOME AGE 40 AND HEAT STROKE IN A PERSON OVER 60.
- AVOID HEAVY EXERTION, EXTREME HEAT, AND SUN EXPOSURE WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
- MONITOR HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS BY CHECKING ON ELDERLY NEIGHBORS AS WELL AS CHILDREN.
- SPEND TIME IN AIR CONDITIONED AREAS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
- LIMIT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY TO EARLY MORNING OR THE EVENING HOURS.
- DRINK PLENTY OF FLUIDS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. AVOID CAFFEINATED AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WHICH CAN INCREASE THE RISK OF DEHYDRATION.
- DRESS IN LIGHT COLORED LOOSELY FITTING CLOTHING.
- MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD`S SAFETY SEAT AND SEAT BUCKLES ARE NOT TOO HOT BEFORE SECURING YOUR CHILD IN A SAFETY RESTRAINT SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOUR CAR HAS BEEN PARKED IN THE HEAT.

Sources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov)

National Weather Service – Mount Holly, NJ (www.weather.gov/)

National Weather Service, Office of Climate, Water & Weather Services

(<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/heat/index.shtml>)

**HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MOUNT HOLLY NJ
415 AM EDT THU MAY 30 2013**

DEZ001>003-MDZ008-012-015-019-020-NJZ007>010-012-013-015>023-027-PAZ060>062-070-071-101>106-310815-NEW CASTLE-KENT-INLAND SUSSEX-CECIL-KENT MD-QUEEN ANNES-TALBOT-CAROLINE-WARREN-MORRIS-HUNTERDON-SOMERSET-MIDDLESEX-WESTERN MONMOUTH-MERCER-SALEM-GLOUCESTER-CAMDEN-NORTHWESTERN BURLINGTON-OCEAN-CUMBERLAND-ATLANTIC-CAPE MAY-SOUTHEASTERN BURLINGTON-BERKS-LEHIGH-NORTHAMPTON-DELAWARE-PHILADELPHIA-WESTERN CHESTER-EASTERN CHESTER-WESTERN MONTGOMERY-EASTERN MONTGOMERY-UPPER BUCKS-LOWER BUCKS-415 AM EDT THU MAY 30 2013

THIS HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK IS FOR CENTRAL DELAWARE...NORTHERN DELAWARE...SOUTHERN DELAWARE...NORTHEAST MARYLAND...CENTRAL NEW JERSEY...NORTHERN NEW JERSEY...NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY...SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY...EAST CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA AND SOUTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA.

.DAY ONE...TODAY AND TONIGHT.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES ARE FORECAST TO REACH AROUND 90 DEGREES AT MOST LOCATIONS THIS AFTERNOON WITH HEAT INDEX VALUES RISING INTO THE LOW 90S.

.DAYS TWO THROUGH SEVEN...FRIDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY.

THE FIRST HEAT WAVE OF THE SEASON IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH SUNDAY. MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES ARE FORECAST TO BE AROUND 90 DEGREES AT MOST LOCATIONS WITH HEAT INDEX VALUES RISING INTO THE LOW 90S EACH AFTERNOON.

.SPOTTER INFORMATION STATEMENT...

SPOTTER ACTIVATION IS NOT EXPECTED AT THIS TIME.