November 2018 Climate Summary – Georgia

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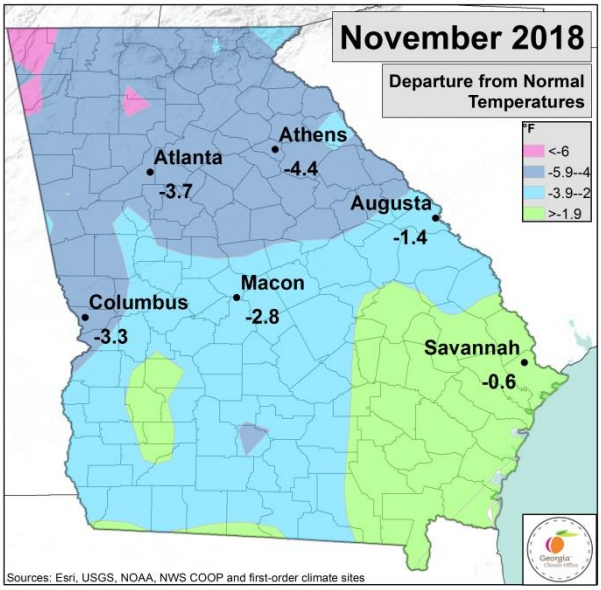
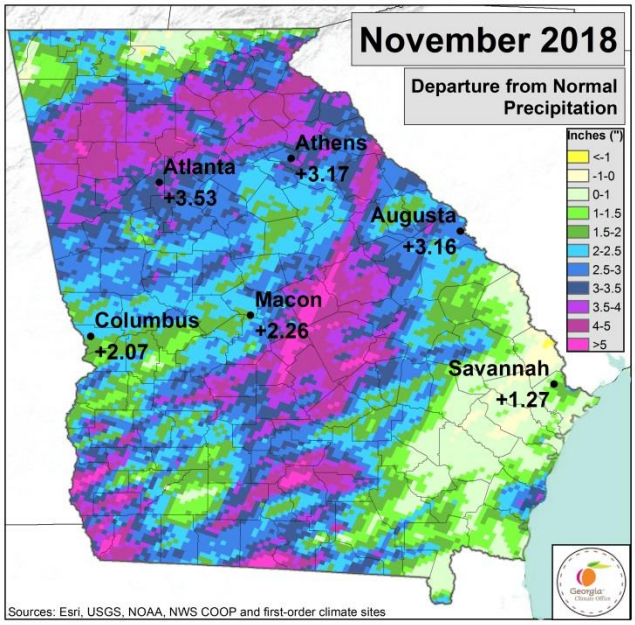
For the first time in three months, parts of Georgia experienced below normal average monthly temperatures in November. The upper level pattern remained active and brought abundant precipitation to much of the state which helped alleviate almost all drought conditions. Although below normal temperatures were reported in November, meteorological fall as a whole proved to be warmer than normal with generally above normal precipitation except in southeast Georgia. Severe weather was highly limited and there was no hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin during the last month of the official hurricane season.



Athens had an average November temperature of 49.4°F (-4.4°) and ranked as the 11th coolest on record. Atlanta's average temperature was 50.3° (-3.7°), Columbus recorded 54.0° (-3.3°), Macon's average temperature was 53.1° (-2.8°), Augusta recorded 53.8° (-1.4°), and Savannah's average monthly temperature was 58.7° (-0.6°). Savannah set a daily high temperature record on November 6th with 86°, breaking the previous record of 85° set in 2003. The site also tied a daily high minimum temperature record on November 9th with 68° (previously set in 2000). The COOP station (FARGO 17 NE) in Charlton county had the warmest monthly average temperature with 65.4°, while the COOP station (MOUNTAIN CITY 2 SW) in Rabun county had the coolest average November temperature with 42.4°.

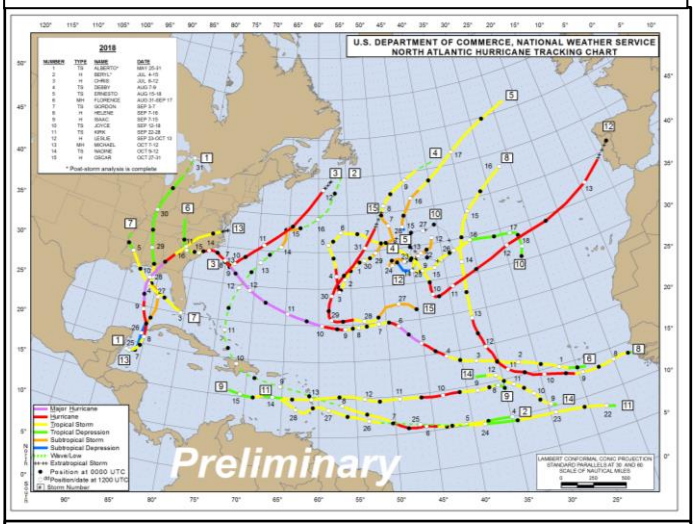


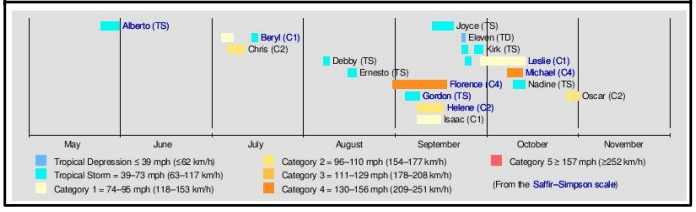
Both Atlanta and Athens had their 8th wettest November on record with a total of 7.27" (+3.17") in Atlanta and 7.35" (+3.53") in Athens. Columbus saw 6.17" (+2.07") and had its 11th wettest November on record. Athens and Columbus broke their daily rainfall records on November 12th with 2.37" (the previous record of 1.58" was set in 1992) and 2.04" (the previous record of 1.24" was set in 1940), respectively. Augusta recorded 5.98" (+3.16) and ranked as 9th wettest November on record, Macon had its 12th wettest November on record with a total of 5.58" (+2.26"), and Savannah recorded 3.64" (+1.27"). The highest total monthly precipitation was recorded at the CARTERSVILLE COOP station with 19.41". Many

sites in far north Georgia also saw 9” to 10” during November.

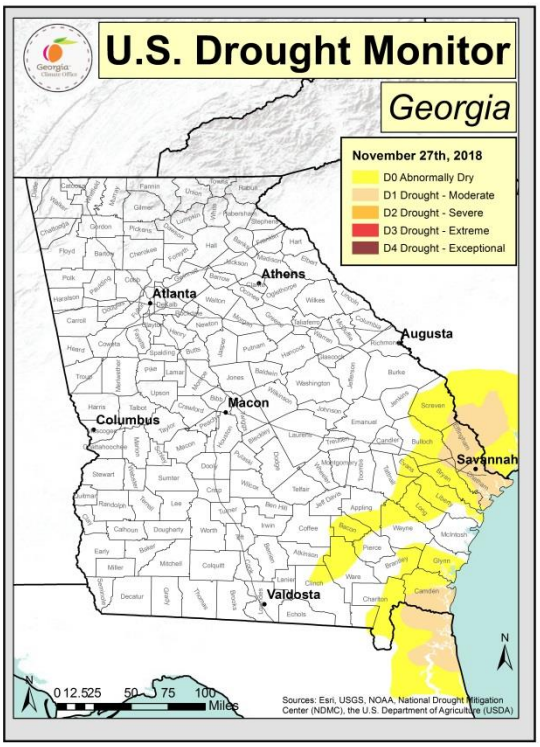
Meteorological fall runs through September, October, and November. Atlanta’s average fall temperature was 66.2° and ranked as 5th warmest, Savannah recorded 70.9° and ranked as 7th warmest, Macon’s average temperature was 68.0° and ranked as 10th warmest, and Athens recorded 65.2° and ranked as 13th warmest fall on record. Augusta had quite a warm fall as well but also a notably wet one. The site recorded 68.0° and ranked as 9th warmest on record. Precipitation totaled 17.75” and ranked as 3rd wettest on record. Columbus also had a warm and wet fall with 69.0°, ranking as 11th warmest, and a total of 16.81”, ranking as 7th wettest.

Preliminary track map and a timeline of the 2018 Atlantic Basin Hurricane Season from the National Hurricane Center.





The official Atlantic Basin Hurricane season ended on November 30th, but there was no activity in the basin during the month. Although initial forecasts for the season predicted a below average season due to the anticipated development of an El Niño, the season proved to be above average when the El Niño failed to develop in time to suppress activity. There were fifteen named storms, eight hurricanes, and two major hurricanes. The storms with the most impacts to Georgia were Tropical Storm Alberto in May, Hurricane Florence in September, and Hurricane Michael in October. During the first week of November, there were a few wind damage reports associated with a fairly strong cold frontal passage, but no other storm damage was reported during the month.



The United States Drought Monitor for Georgia showed that D0 (abnormally dry) conditions were present in parts of north Georgia for only the first week of November. D0 and D1 (moderate drought) conditions were more prevalent in southeast of Georgia during that first week. Drought conditions slowly improved and were only confined to coastal counties by the end of the month.

According to the Climate Prediction Center, there is currently an El Niño Watch and ENSO-neutral conditions are present. Equatorial sea surface temperatures are above average across most of the Pacific Ocean. El Niño is expected to form and continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2018 through 2019 with about an 80% chance, and El Niño is forecast to continue into spring with about a 55% to 60% chance. The CPC's three-month seasonal outlook calls for equal chances of above, near, or below normal temperatures and chances for above normal precipitation, particularly as you move southward, during December, January, and February.