

CAROLINA JOURNAL

It's official: July was hot

The Associated Press

Successive 90-degree days, often without reprieve, helped make July the hottest month on record for many parts of North Carolina.

The monotonous series of hot days started June 28 for Charlotte, which ended up with a record 33-straight days over 90 degrees. That gave the city its hottest month since records were first kept in 1878.

Similar conditions helped the Raleigh-Durham area break an August 1900 mark for heat. The Triad surpassed a record set in 1976 and Asheville had the hottest month since the airport began keeping records in 1964 — and possibly since 1902.

In many areas, daily records were broken on only a few days. But the consistently high temperatures added up.

Charlotte hit 100 degrees five times in July but only once was it a record for the date. The city broke a 1986 record of 31 straight days above 90 degrees and ended the month with an average temperature of 85.5 degrees.

The Triad area had the most days in a month with temperatures of 90 or above en route to its hottest month since record-keeping began in 1900.

The region averaged 82 degrees to beat a record of 80.8 set in August 1976. It was 90 or above 24 of the 31 days, eclipsing a mark of 21 days set in August 1975.