Rainfall & Temperature Data:

Rainfall: 6.19 inches (YTD: 43.06 in.)
23 yr. August rainfall average: 6.62 in.
Average high temperature: 91.2 F (normal: 90.0 F)
Above normal high-temperature days: 19
Record high-temperature days: 2

Weather Analysis: September is the second consecutive month in which both temperature and rainfall were near normal – equating to plenty of great late-summer, early-fall weather for the Meadows.

The heat dome mentioned last month certainly has dissipated from earlier levels, yet the monthly hi-temperature average remained above normal, albeit by only 1.2 degrees F. The significance of this is that our daytime hi-temperature monthly averages have consistently been above normal in all but one month since January 2020! And, in that one month, December 2020, the temperature was normal – see Graph One.

Area residents may find this graph interesting because it reinforces in real-time the growing scientific evidence that points to our climate transitioning from subtropical to tropical – like that found in Miami, Florida! Details about this unique climate phenomenon can be found in a recently published paperback at Amazon.com – ‘Climates in Crisis’.

Other September temperature statistics reveal that maximum day-time temperatures exceeded normal on 19 days and there were two record high-temperature days.

September concluded our four-month rainy season (June 1st to September 30th) with little fanfare as rainfall was just-short of normal, less than a half-inch. Likewise, the rainy season concluded in near-normal fashion with rainfall totaling 33.9 inches (normal is 34.5”). During a typical September, measurable rainfall is recorded on 13 days. Surprisingly, if one counts the six days in which brief
showers deposited 0.24” of water, a total of twenty-six rainy days were recorded this month! Truly amazing!

Monthly temperature and rainfall data are presented in Graph Two.

**Hurricane Season Analysis:** According to a WeatherTiger article appearing in the Sarasota Herald Tribune (09/18/2021): “Since May 2020, forty-five tropical cyclones, twenty hurricanes, and ten major hurricanes have developed in the Atlantic. Twelve tropical storms, five Category 1 or 2 hurricanes, and three major hurricanes have made landfall in the continental United States”. With all this tropical activity happening around us, residents in the Meadows have good reason to ‘bask’ in the historical good fortune of being spared impact by a major hurricane for the past sixty-one years -- Hurricane Donna in 1960!

We may bask in our good fortune, but we must not ‘fall asleep at the switch’. The risk for a major hurricane impact in Southwest Florida peaks in mid-October, specifically between the 13th and 27th, then remains at a moderate level until about November 10th. With water temperatures continuing to run above normal in both the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, conditions are ripe for tropical cyclonic development in the western Caribbean.

Residents: Remain vigilant for the final-third of this very active Atlantic hurricane season.

Send comments and questions about this month’s report to: roywys9@gmail.com.
Graph One
Meadows 2020/2021 Hi-Temperature Data

Data received from two Davis Instrument weather stations located in the Meadows
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