August 2009

Beware of Fog Season

The last part of August to the first part of November marks the fog season in the Northeast. Lengthening nights allow the air temperature to more often cool to the point of saturation (100 percent relative humidity). At the same time light surface winds prevent substantial mixing in of dry air from aloft. Another contributing factor, in some cases, is the presence of warm water bodies. Streams or rivers can add moisture to the lowest levels of the atmosphere.

The forensics team at AccuWeather.com was called upon to verify the presence of fog and to ascertain the horizontal visibility at an automobile accident scene during the early autumn. By examining the terrain, surface observations, weather maps and high resolution satellite photos, our experts were not only able to determine that fog was indeed present at the time of the accident, but also how long the fog had been present in the area and the approximate visibility, in feet at the scene.

This is an excellent example of the types of cases in which the AccuWeather Forensics department has the experience and the expertise to determine what took place meteorologically at any given time and place. Contact us today at 814-235-8626 for more information.