

What's Causing the Coastal Fog Today along the Jersey Shore?

By Joe Hyer May 29, 2016 4:32 PM

If you've been to the shore today you have surely noticed the fog. It's not foggy inland, but several WOBM beach-goers have reported seeing the haze throughout the day. I've seen friends post about the fog from the beaches of Seaside Park down through Long Beach Island. So what's causing it? Blame the remnants of Tropical Storm Bonnie as the system works its way into the area.

Tropical Storm Bonnie made landfall early Sunday morning just east of Charleston. The system is weakening, but moisture associated with the system is arriving in our region today, according to forecasters.

And that is where the fog is coming from. Blame Bonnie! The tropical moisture has increased the dew points along the coast. That creates fog, according to forecasters.

Gary Szatkowski, who is a meteorologist with the National Weather Service out of Mount Holly, answered this question on Twitter after being asked by several followers.

(Gary, by the way is retiring, after years of service. Thanks for all your great forecasts, Gary!)

The dew point is the temperature at which air is saturated with water vapor. I also reached out the forecasters on duty at the National Weather Service. They told me that the moist air moving over the relatively cool (ocean) waters resulted in the air being nearly saturated right over the water.

As of 4:30 on Sunday the fog was definitely still visible on the [Earthcam out of Seaside Heights](#), but there's no fog at our Toms River studios (which are less than 7 miles away).

Why didn't the fog spread inland? I asked the National Weather Service that too. Their on-duty forecasters told me that we could thank the warmer temperatures inland.

"The fog couldn't develop or propagate very far inland because over land, we were able to warm into the upper 70s and lower 80s (compare with air temperatures over the ocean generally staying in the 60s today), resulting in a larger spread between the temperature and dew point," according to a message I received from the Mount Holly National Weather Service.

Of course, today has still been a great beach day. The sun has been shining for most of the day, and coastal temperatures are right around 80*.

