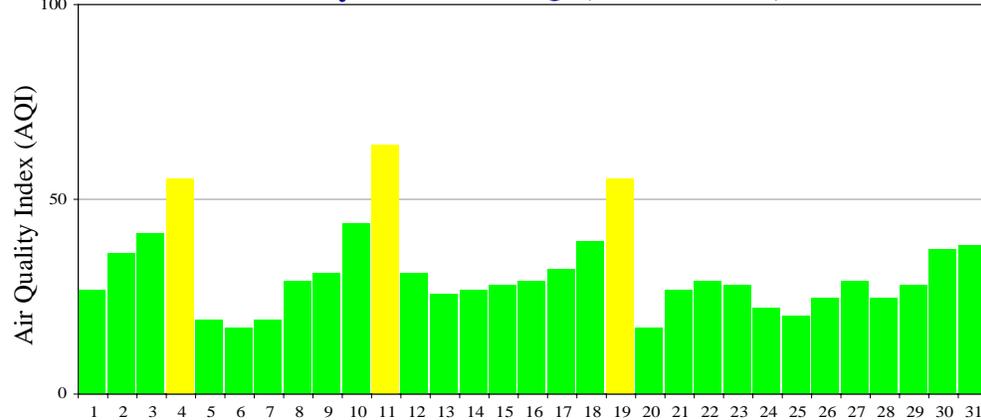


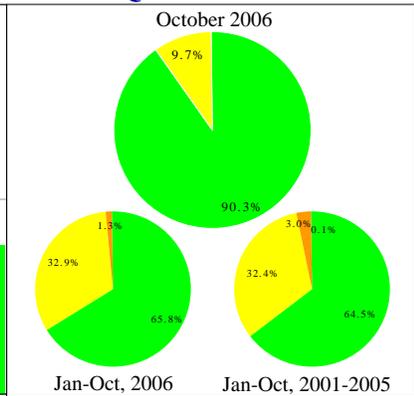
# Quality of Air

## for Western Maryland Forecast Region, October 2006

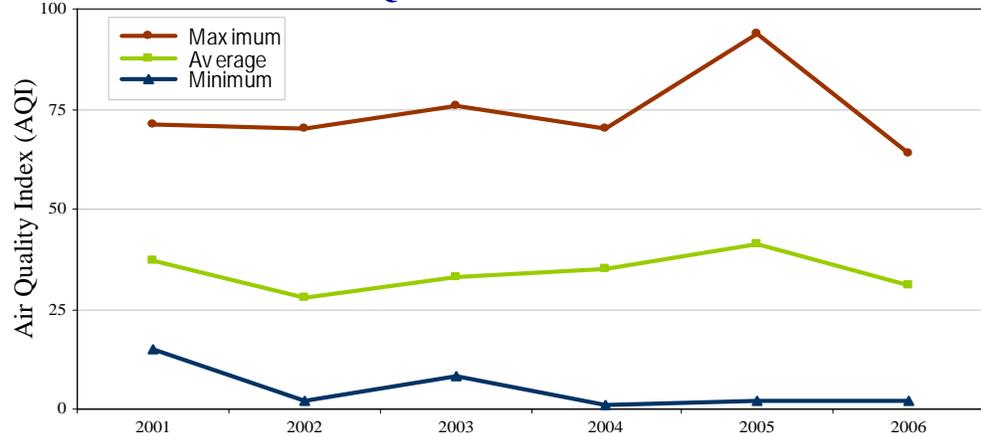
**Daily Maximum AQI (October 2006)**



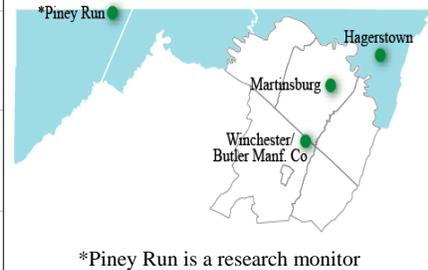
**AQI Distribution**



**AQI Statistics for October**



**Western Maryland Forecast Region and Monitors**



**Number Days Above 100 AQI vs. Days  $\geq$  90 F at Hagerstown (2006 Data)**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
8-hr Ozone	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	n/a	n/a	2
24-hr PM Fine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	n/a	n/a	2
Both Pollutants <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	n/a	n/a	4
Day $\geq$ 90 F	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	5	0	0	n/a	n/a	16

October marks the peak of the autumn “Spectacular Foliage Colors” in the Mid-Atlantic region as daylight hours wane and temperatures cool, transitioning into the beginning of winter. The vibrant colors in mixtures of reds, oranges, and golds are visible not only at the surface but also from space. The Terra Satellite captured this spectacular transition and it can be found on the NASA’s Earth Observatory website at [http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/NewImages/images.php3?img\\_id=17448](http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/NewImages/images.php3?img_id=17448). Generally, good air quality was observed during October in the Western Maryland Forecast Region (WMFR) due to low fine particle pollution, creating good visibility also. AQI levels were Good on 28 days (90.3%) and Moderate on 3 days (9.7%). A comparison of the AQI data thus far for 2006 and historical AQI data (Jan-Oct, 2001-2005) show a slight improvement in air quality for the forecast region. Visit [www.air-watch.net](http://www.air-watch.net) for the current air quality conditions and forecast.

### Air Quality Index (AQI)



Note: <sup>1</sup>Either one or both pollutants are USG or above. <sup>2</sup>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups. Data presented for 2006 are preliminary.