



CoCoRaHS Collections

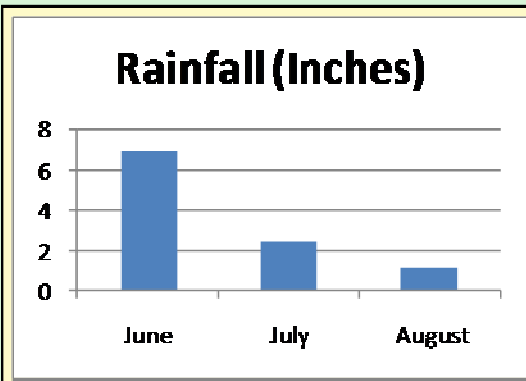
“Because Every Drop Counts”

The Ohio Newsletter

Summer 2010

Summer Roundup

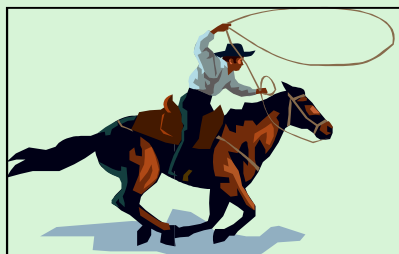
This past summer began with a wet start around the state. Multiple locations across the state, from Cincinnati to Cleveland, experienced above normal rainfall for June. By August however, most locations were experiencing below normal precipitation for the month. This was more distinguishable across southwest portions of the state where moderate to severe drought has developed.



Summer Precipitation for Cincinnati

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Of the stations that reported everyday, what was the highest and lowest precipitation totals?

Highest: OH-AT-1 17.48 Inches

Lowest: OH-SD-2 8.33 Inches

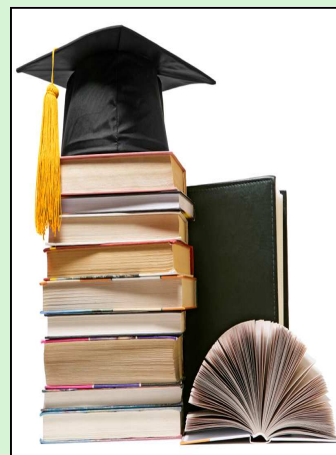
The Observer's Story OH-AL-5

Want to share your CoCoRaHS story? If so, please e-mail Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov

The CoCoRaHS network originated with the Colorado Climate Center at Colorado State University in 1998 thanks in part to the Fort Collins flood a year earlier. That flood touched the lives of many people including the life of OH-AL-5 and his daughter. His daughter was visiting her in-laws in Fort Collins, Colorado. She was working towards her master's degree and had been studying at the library that day. After returning home she realized she needed a book and thought she would go back to the library the next day to retrieve it. The next day however the library was under water due to the flood. Needless to say, she was not able to get the book. She did go on to get her masters however, despite not having the book. At one point while in Colorado, she was introduced to Nolan Doesken and Nolan was instrumental in getting observer OH-AL-5 up and running in Ohio as soon as Ohio joined CoCoRaHS. Since that time OH-AL-5 has been a dedicated observer who has submitted over 500 valuable daily precipitation reports. What is your CoCoRaHS story? (Special thanks to observer OH-AL-5 for contributions to this article.)

Did you know?

There are 369 CoCoRaHS observers in Ohio. Of those 369, 175 CoCoRaHS observers have reported at some point during this past summer.



Your Hard Work...IN ACTION!

Please submit your 'how you use CoCoRaHS data' to Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov

During the June 1st-August 31st time frame 76 significant weather reports were submitted by Ohio observers. Many of these reports discussed creeks overflowing, roads that were flooded, or in some cases it was the observer's house that was even flooded. We appreciate the time and effort you have taken to go a step above to provide this real time information. This information is utilized heavily

by NWS forecasters issuing flood advisories, flood warnings, and flash flood warnings. In addition, there were 8 hail reports submitted. Hail reports, like significant weather reports, can be utilized whenever the weather event occurs. You do not have to wait until your normal observation time in order to report significant weather, including hail. Before we know it snow

will be flying in the sky. This winter the National Weather Service is trying to get more real time snowfall observations. Heavy snow events are a great time to utilize the significant weather report for real time observations during and just after an event. Keep up the great work with not only the significant weather reports, but the daily precipitation reports too!

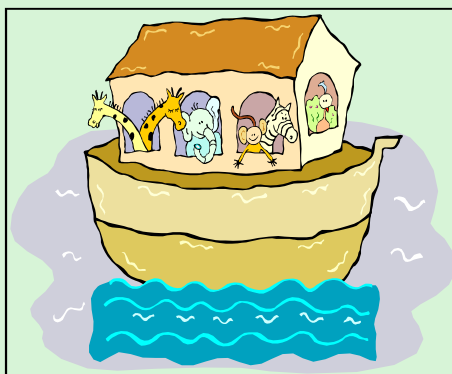
FLOODING AHEAD
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN

Your Significant Weather Report Can Make a Difference!

FLOODING AHEAD
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN

Whether it be as a CoCoRaHS observer, a storm spotter, or a National Weather Service employee, we are all working together to gather weather information in an effort to help others and save lives. Although this example is of a storm spotter just over the Ohio border in Kentucky, as a CoCoRaHS observer your significant weather reports provide the same life saving real-time information. On July 20-21, 2010 a devastating flash flood struck Lewis County Kentucky. Our storm spotter in this event provided two reports within twenty minutes of each other to indicate that she had received an inch of rainfall in that short amount of time. With virtually no rain

located near the heaviest rainfall, the storm spotter's real-time ground reports were critical to the National Weather Service warning process that night. Her reports conveyed the extreme nature of the heavy rainfall over Lewis County, which led National Weather Service meteorologists to issue a flash flood warning and led them to notify the county 911 center about the extreme



flooding potential well before the worst of it began. Despite the destruction caused by the flooding in Lewis County that night, all rescues were successful and no lives were lost. The storm spotter's rainfall reports played an integral role in the life-saving warning process on the night of July 20th. As a CoCoRaHS observer, filling out the Significant Weather Report form when you experience heavy rainfall and flooding, will provide real-time information that could help save a life just as this storm spotter did in this example.

(Special thanks to Dan Hawblitzel and Julie Dian-Reed for contributions to this article.)

Summer 2010 Honor Roll

From June 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010, these Ohio stations reported everyday. Here are those stations who get a thumbs up for their dedication!

THANK YOU to all of our observers for their consistent reporting!

OH-AT-1
OH-AT-2
OH-AT-5
OH-BT-1
OH-CB-2

OH-CK-1
OH-DF-1
OH-DR-1
OH-FR-1
OH-FR-3

OH-FR-8
OH-GR-3
OH-HM-5
OH-HR-2
OH-LR-2

OH-MM-1
OH-MM-2
OH-PB-1
OH-PT-8
OH-PT-12

OH-SD-2
OH-SD-3
OH-SH-4
OH-SM-5
OH-SN-1

OH-SN-3
OH-TR-1
OH-TS-1
OH-VN-1
OH-WL-2



500 Club!

A big congratulations and thank you to our 46 observers that have submitted over 500 daily precipitation reports through August 2010. These observers have reported everyday, or almost everyday, since they began observing for CoCoRaHS in Ohio. Through snow and rain, they have accomplished a lot to make it to this point. We truly appreciate your time and effort. We look forward to adding on to this list with the next newsletter as more of you hit this amazing milestone.



OH-AL-5
OH-AT-1
OH-AT-2
OH-AT-3
OH-BT-1
OH-CB-2
OH-CK-1
OH-CM-2
OH-CN-1
OH-CN-4
OH-CR-1
OH-CW-3
OH-CY-4
OH-DF-1
OH-DR-1
OH-FR-1

OH-FR-2
OH-FR-3
OH-FR-8
OH-GG-4
OH-HM-5
OH-HR-2
OH-LC-1
OH-LK-1
OH-LR-2
OH-LS-1
OH-MD-2
OH-MM-1
OH-MY-5
OH-PB-1
OH-PT-5
OH-PT-8

OH-PT-10
OH-RS-1
OH-SD-2
OH-SD-3
OH-SH-1
OH-SH-4
OH-SM-3
OH-SM-4
OH-SM-5
OH-SN-1
OH-TS-1
OH-WD-2
OH-WD-3
OH-WN-1

Drought Monitoring

Drought develops over time and it is important to notice the impacts that are developing from drought so that precautions can be made and action taken to reduce the negative impacts of drought. Abnormally dry to severe drought conditions currently exist across much of Ohio. As a CoCoRaHS observer you can make a difference by providing information on how drought conditions are impacting your area. You can do this by

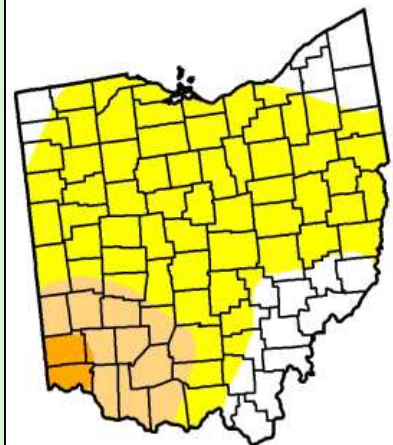
using the Drought Impact Report Form located under 'enter my new reports.' With this report you can describe how and when drought is affecting you, your livelihood, and your activities.

Continued on page 4...

U.S. Drought Monitor Ohio

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



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Newsletter

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The Ohio CoCoRaHS Newsletter

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Because Every Drop Counts

www.cocorahs.org



Helpful Links for Ohio CoCoRaHS Observers

Obtain replacement or extra equipment from our official suppliers:

<http://www.weatheryourway.com/cocorahs/store.html>

<http://www.ambientweather.com/strgloteprra.html>

For information on Ohio Climate:

<http://www.geography.osu.edu/faculty/rogers/statclim.html>

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/>

For Current Forecasts and Severe Weather Warnings:

<http://www.weather.gov>

For river information:

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps/>

For drought information:

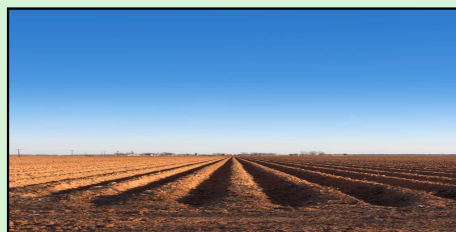
<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/>

<http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/>

Drought Monitoring

Continued from page 3...

If you would like additional information on how to fill out this form, please reference the training slide shows on the CoCoRaHS webpage. Your reports will be utilized by the National Drought Mitigation Center as part of the 'Drought Impact Reporter.' A special thank you to those of you who are already reporting drought conditions in your area. Another way that you can help make others aware of



how dry it is in your location is with your daily precipitation report. Entering a '0' when you do not receive any precipitation provides a lot of information. Without those '0s' it becomes difficult to distinguish between locations that have received precipitation from those that have not. If you forgot to enter your zeros, don't worry! You can enter them using the Monthly Zeros form on the CoCoRaHS website.