Rain Returns

Over the past month, the number of CoCoRaHS stations in Arkansas increased beyond 500. At this writing, the number is exactly 539. A large number of observers, 98, reported daily rainfall amounts for 30 to 31 days. Many more used the “Multi-Day Accumulation” to supply the data for the monthly rainfall total.

Despite some respectable rainfall amounts, 97% of the State was mired in severe to exceptional drought on the August 14 U.S. Drought Monitor map. (See maps at end of newsletter.)

Highest rainfall amounts from CoCoRaHS volunteers (over 5 inches) in July were reported in western and southern Arkansas. Stations in and around Magnolia, Lewisville, Hampton, Crossett, Waldo, Marianna, Fordyce, Texarkana, and Camden exceeded 5 inches in southern Arkansas. Charleston and Greenwood topped 5 inches in western Arkansas.

So far in August, the good news is that portions of central Arkansas are receiving much needed rain. Still, most of the State has only received about 50% of its normal rainfall for the past 3 months, and high temperatures have reduced the effective rainfall through high evapotranspiration rates.

Volunteer Contribution to the Newsletter

Share your experiences, successes, difficulties, photos, etc. with other CoCoRaHS volunteers. Email items you think would be of interest to other volunteers. What suggestions do you have to improve CoCoRaHS in Arkansas? Email to the following: michael.borengasser@arkansas.gov.

And always remember, “ZEROS COUNT”. Use the “Monthly Zeros” feature to fill in for days when there has been no rainfall.
The U.S. Drought Monitor publishes a weekly map of drought conditions and predictions (http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/). You can also track drought reports at the Drought Impact Reporter from this website.

**U.S. Drought Monitor**

*August 14, 2012*

Valid 7 a.m. EST

**Arkansas**

![Drought Conditions Map](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/unl/drought_monitor.html)

**Intensity:**

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

**USDA**

Released Thursday, August 16, 2012

Michael Brewer, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA

**U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook**

Drought Tendency During the valid period

Valid for August 16 - November 30, 2012

Released August 14, 2012

![Seasonal Drought Map](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/unl/seasonal_drought_monitor.html)

**Key:**

- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts lessen
- Drought development likely

Impacts large-scale trends based on subjective-derived projections placed by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Monitoring events—such as El Nino—camps and severe weather—can be affected by early-season regional drought conditions. See the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the latest analysis.