



ARKANSAS CoCoRaHS



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Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
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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.

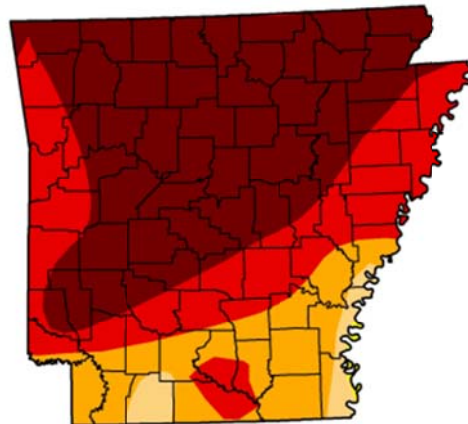
U.S. Drought Monitor

Arkansas

August 14, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.79	96.79	80.93	53.60
Last Week (08/07/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	99.79	96.38	80.98	53.26
3 Months Ago (05/15/2012 map)	75.44	24.56	1.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	86.20	13.80	3.95	1.06	0.23	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	1.21	98.79	75.99	39.48	18.92	1.53
One Year Ago (08/09/2011 map)	4.43	95.57	86.30	63.64	20.48	0.50



Intensity:

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

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



Released Thursday, August 16, 2012
Michael Brewer, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

