



ARKANSAS CoCoRaHS



JANUARY 2013
Volume 1 Issue 8

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
101 E. Capitol, Suite 350, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201, Phone: (501) 682-3960

ARKANSAS COCORaHS COORDINATORS

Michael J. Borengasser, CFM
State Climatologist
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
State CoCoRaHS Co-Coordinator
(501) 682-3969
michael.borengasser@arkansas.gov

Chris Buonanno
National Weather Service State CoCoRaHS Co-Coordinator
Central Arkansas Regional Coordinator
(501) 834-9102 x 224
christopher.buonanno@noaa.gov

Zwemer Ingram
National Weather Service
Northeastern Arkansas Regional Coordinator
(901) 544-0399
zwemer.ingram@noaa.gov

Marty Pope
National Weather Service
Southeastern Arkansas Regional Coordinator
(601) 936-2189
marty.pope@noaa.gov

Aaron Stevens
Jason Hansford
National Weather Service
Southwestern Arkansas Regional Coordinators
(318) 631-3669
aaron.stevens@noaa.gov
jason.hansford@noaa.gov

Nicole McGavock
National Weather Service
Northwestern Arkansas Regional Coordinator
(918) 832-4116
Nicole.mcgvock@noaa.gov

December Summary

The year 2012 ended with over 600 CoCoRaHS rain gauges registered with volunteer observers since 2009. Last year alone, 355 volunteers joined CoCoRaHS. Below is a paragraph from a report sent to State CoCoRaHS Coordinators.

CoCoRaHS Observers -- How many have made that all important first observation?

Have you ever wondered how many folks have signed up to be a volunteer observer in your state and actually made that first observation. The percentage is much higher than you might think. We took a look at the past four water years (October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2012) and broke them down state by state. Our national average was 72%, 14,135 out of 19,591 who signed up. Montana (89%), Kansas (84%), **Arkansas (80%)** and Oregon (80%) all topped out above 80%.

During the month of December, one half (over 300) of the volunteers in Arkansas submitted at least one daily report. Many submitted reports every day of the month. And with the holidays, when families travel away from home, there were numerous "Multiple Day Reports."

Five (5) sites reported over 8 inches of precipitation for the month: Aly 2.7 N (AR-YL-1) – 13.76", Hot Springs 8.4 WNW (AR-GL-1) – 11.01", Scott 5.2 ENE (AR-LK-12) – 9.95", Little Rock 0.7 NE (AR-PS-1) – 9.22", and Alexander 2.9 WNW (AR-SL-8) – 8.01". While drought conditions are easing in the northwest part of the State, precipitation during the month was still well below normal.

For comparison with normal or average rainfall for the month, there are several easily accessible websites: [1981-2010 Climate Normals](#), [Southern U.S. Drought Tool](#) and the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#). Go to the Office of the Arkansas State Climatologist webpage at www.climate.ar.gov to link to those sites. You will find the Southern U.S. Drought Tool both enlightening and fun to play with various scenarios.

On a day when there is rainfall, the number of daily reports is usually greater than for days when there is no rainfall. Still, it is important to record "ZEROS." The response to the Christmas day snowfall event was "incredible." Two hundred-two (202) observations were recorded on December 26, and 93 included snow depths. Six (6) sites recorded a foot or more of snow.

AR-PY-4	Perryville 2.3 SSW	22.0"
AR-PY-2	Houston 5.0 S	14.5"
AR-LW-2	Smithville 4.4 SSE	13.0"
AR-ST-11	Leslie 10.3 ENE	12.5"
AR-FK-10	Vilonia 5.7 NNE	12.0"
AR-ST-14	Timbo 2.8 NNE	12.0"

MARCH MADNESS

"March Madness" is not just for basketball. CoCoRaHS has its own version of this annual event. It is a contest among the states to see which state can enroll the most gauges during the month of March. More will be forthcoming later this month. In the meantime, go to this page - <http://cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=marchmadness>.