



The Hoosier Observer

Indiana CoCoRaHS monthly e-newsletter

December 2022

November 2022 Statistics

Total observers reporting	514
Observers with no missing reports	283
Percent of total	55
Average Daily Reports per Day	395
Max # of Daily Reports and Day	447 / 1
Significant Weather Reports	15
Condition Monitoring Reports	36
E-T Reports	0

As we dive deeper into the winter months, be sure you're closely keeping an eye on the forecast if you plan on keeping your inner tube in your gauge. Generally, we recommend just keeping your inner tube inside throughout the winter, but if you can consistently watch those overnight temperatures you might find a time or two that you can have it out.

We'd also like to highlight the Significant Weather Reports this month. If you experience a heavy rain or snow event in the short timeframe and want to get data to the National Weather Service instantly, consider entering one of these reports. The link can be found [here](#).

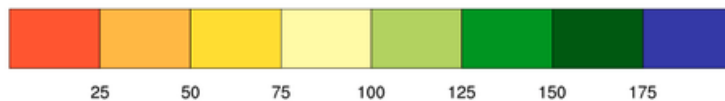
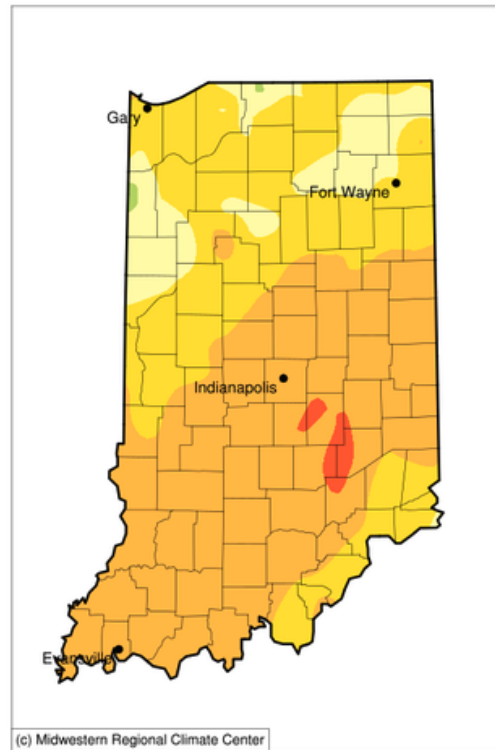
Finally, we'd also like to recognize the 11 new Indiana observers (Bartholomew, Crawford, Fountain, Gibson, Hamilton, Hendricks, Marion, Noble, Vanderburgh, Wayne, and White counties) that joined CoCoRaHS in the last month. Thanks for joining the team!

November 2022 Precipitation in Indiana

November continued the dry trend that Indiana seems to have been stuck in for the past few months. Averaged across the state, Indiana only received 1.50 inches which is 1.88 inches below the 1991-2020 normal amount. This caused abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions (as categorized by the U.S. Drought Monitor) to spread across the state causing low soil moistures, and low stream and lake levels. The map shown illustrates the percentage of the 1991-2020 normal precipitation for November 2022 indicating where the monthly precipitation was above or below normal. Of the CoCoRaHS observers who provided data *every day*, the greatest precipitation total for the month was 3.18 inches at GARY 6.2 ENE (Lake County), whereas the lowest monthly precipitation total was only 0.76 inches at IDAVILLE 0.2 SW (White County). Of those with *complete monthly records*, the maximum 1-day total was 1.53 inches on November 11th at RENSSELAER 6.2 SE (Jasper County).

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Percent of 1991-2020 Normals

November 01, 2022 to November 30, 2022



25th Anniversary of CoCoRaHS

In June of 2023, CoCoRaHS will mark its 25th year of operation. You will be seeing more about this in the next few months as we move closer to the anniversary. One of the ways we are marking this milestone is collecting CoCoRaHS stories from our observers. We would like to hear your CoCoRaHS story - why you joined, what motivates you to make that observation every day, or whatever you

would like to tell us. Share your [CoCoRaHS testimonial here](#). We look forward to reading all of your entries!

Drought Can Happen in Winter - Zero-Inch Reports are Still Important

By Steve Hilberg

Drought affected much of Indiana this past year. There was some short-lived relief, but drier than normal weather has affected much of the state through the fall and into winter. The effect of drought becomes less obvious as fall progresses and winter develops. Crops have been harvested, the growing season has ended, and almost everything that was green during the summer is mostly brown. Nevertheless, drought can persist and worsen. The extent of abnormally dry and drought conditions still covers over 80 percent of Indiana. The persistence of drought at this time of year has implications for the 2023 growing season.

Your CoCoRaHS observations are important pieces of information for those monitoring the drought. That's why every observation from every observer is important, including the reports noting no precipitation (i.e., zero inches). When your data is complete for the month, those using precipitation data can be confident that they are getting the entire picture for that station and location. The climatologists and hydrologists monitoring drought are usually using accumulated data - for a week, a month, or longer. If there is missing data for a station in those periods, then the confidence in the totals is low. Generally, if more than 10 percent of data is missing, the totals aren't used - that's one day a week, 3 days a month, etc.

Be a hero - report your zeros!

Please Review Winter Weather Training

by Steve Hilberg

Winter weather has already started impacting Indiana. Measurements from the varieties of precipitation can be a challenge. Snow measurements (e.g., new snow, new snow water equivalent (SWE), snowpack, and snowpack SWE) are all optional measurements for observers. Though optional, they are extremely useful, and if you are going to make these measurements we want them to be made and reported correctly. If this is your first winter as a CoCoRaHS observer, or you want a refresher before the next winter storm event, be sure you review our [Winter Weather Measurements training](#).

If you Move or Change your Email Address

If you are moving to a new home and want to continue to participate in CoCoRaHS, please let us know as soon as possible. Your observations are tied to a specific location, so we don't want observations from your new location associated with your previous location. The value of the observations is increased by their continuity at that location, so consider suggesting to the buyer or new tenant of your home that they participate in CoCoRaHS! We have a brochure that you can download, print and give to them.

When you know your new address, let us know. When you are ready, we will close your old station and open a new station at your new address (DO NOT sign up for CoCoRaHS again). Once that's done, you can enter observations from your new location. If you are moving to a different state, we can help you get in touch with that state coordinator so you can get started there.

Let us know if you change your email address so that your record is up to date. You can update your email address in the CoCoRaHS database yourself by logging in and clicking on My Account in the top line menu. Click on Edit in the My Information box. Make any corrections, then click save.

Please also send a message to andrew.j.white@noaa.gov with the email change as well, so we can update your address on our newsletter mailing list. This list is maintained separately from the main CoCoRaHS database.



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