



The Hoosier Observer
Indiana CoCoRaHS monthly e-newsletter

September 2020

August 2020 Statistics

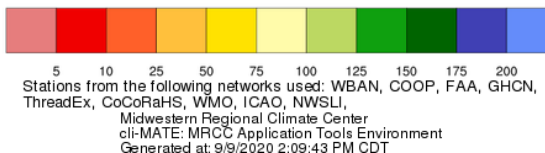
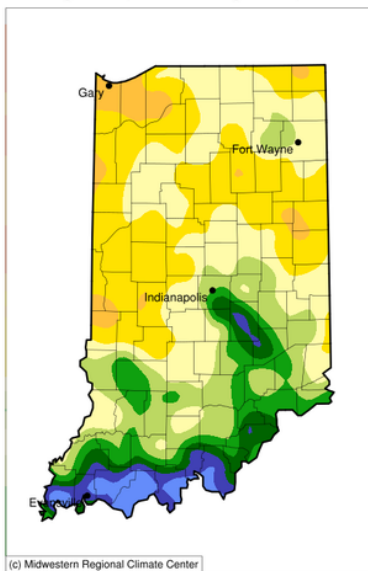
Total observers reporting	549
Observers with no missing reports	327
Percent of total	60
Average Daily Reports per Day	436
Max # of Daily Reports and Day	481 / 11
Significant Weather Reports	19
Condition Monitoring Reports	69
E-T Reports	283
Max Daily Rainfall (County)	4.28" / (Clark)

During the month of August, we had 327 observers across the state submit a complete month of observations, either daily or multi-day. There were 53 observers that were only missing 1 day and often it is forgetting to put in a zero. Beth sends out a reminder each month to check your observations to catch these. We highly recommend you take a look every so often. We'd love to see our numbers of a complete month improve. That being said, it has been amazing to see the growth in the program across the state. This time last year, we were only averaging around 320 observations a day, so to go from 320 observations a day to 327 observers with complete months of observations is incredible! As always, thanks for going out and checking those rain gauges and for all the work each one of you does to help the network! To the 10 new observers from Johnson, Marshall (2), Orange, Porter (2), Marion (2), Allen, and Monroe counties, thanks for joining the team!

August Precipitation in Indiana

The August 2020 statewide precipitation was 4.57 inches -- 0.20 inches above the 1981-2010 average. Similar to June and July, the driest parts of the state were in the northern counties (see map). The monthly total range in precipitation throughout the state spanned from just over one inch to over eight inches! Of the observers that provided data every day, the greatest precipitation total for the month was 8.81 inches at SANTA CLAUS 1.4 SW (Spencer County), whereas the lowest monthly precipitation total was only 0.63 inches at TERRE HAUTE 6.5 N (Vigo County)! Of those with complete monthly records, the maximum 1-day total was 4.28 inches on August 14 at JEFFERSONVILLE 0.8 NW (Clark County).

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Percent of 1981-2010 Normals
August 01, 2020 to August 31, 2020



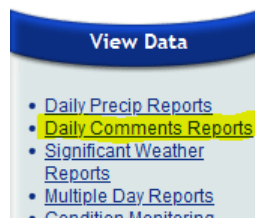
CoCoRaHS Hits 3 Million Reports for the Year
By Steve Hilberg

On August 9, the 3 millionth daily report was submitted for the year -- only 68 days since the 2 millionth report was submitted in June. This is the earliest we have ever hit 3 million daily reports. Last year this mark was reached on August 25th. Stats are courtesy of Matt Spies, Connecticut State Coordinator.

What to Do with Dew
By Steve Hilberg

We are in the time of year where we can have warm days followed by very cool nights. Dew formation becomes more common especially on those clear, cool nights, or on days following rain. Some nights just put a haze on your car windshield and rain gauge, and some mornings you can soak your shoes walking ten feet through the grass. Dew accumulates on the outside and inside of the funnel of your rain gauge, and if heavy enough, droplets of water will run down the funnel into the inner measuring tube. You might come out one morning with heavy dew and find a Trace, 0.01 or even 0.02 of water in your gauge. What do you do?

Since dew is condensation (forms on the surface of an object) and not precipitation (falls from the sky), you do not report dew as Daily Precipitation. Don't report a Trace, either. You can, however, mention heavy dew and what was in your gauge in the comments. Take a look through some recent comments from observers to see examples of dew reports.



Not sure whether or not it rained? If there was rain in the forecast, or you have other reasons to think it might have rained (clouds, overcast), you can enter the amount of water in the gauge as precipitation and include a note about the dew and uncertainty about rain. If you have the means and desire, you can also look online to see what radar is showing. Sometimes being an observer means you might need to do a little detective work!

The End of Water Year 2020 is Approaching

by Steve Hilberg

We are halfway through September and nearing the end of the 2020 Water Year (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020). For new observers, the Water Year captures precipitation that falls in the autumn and early winter and melts the following warm season and is used for assessing surface water supply by the U.S. Geological Survey. CoCoRaHS uses the Water Year to compile summaries of all of your observations during that period and posts that data to your account. To see an example of a water year summary, go to last year's reports (<https://www.cocorahs.org/WaterYearSummary/State.aspx?year=2019&state=IL>) and pick a station to review. Your observation data for the year is presented in a number of different ways and is downloadable. We remind you to check for data completeness every month and if you have been doing that you should be in good shape. Even so, take some time over the next two weeks to go back and review your observations, enter missing values that you may have forgotten to enter, and overall make sure your record is in good shape. If you have entered multi-day reports during the year, make sure they have the correct dates. Multi-day reports cannot overlap each other nor can they overlap a daily report. If you have date conflicts you need help with let us know and we'll be happy to help you. The Water Year 2020 summaries will be compiled and posted around October 8. You will have a period of time to review these before a final version is run in late October or early November.

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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