May 14, 2012



Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter

A few rainy days in April

About half of the days in April recorded measurable rainfall across the Pelican State. Most notable was heavy rains from a slow moving cold front on April 3rd across the lower parishes of Louisiana. Another significant rain event took place across the northwestern part of the state on the 15th, where flooding took place in Natchitoches and on the campus of Northwestern State University. On April 3rd, Terrytown, on the west bank of New Orleans area, measured 3.38". The wettest day statewide was 4.76 inches measured the morning of April 16th at Goldonna 8.8 SSW in Natchitoches Parish. Another rainy day with flooding occurred on the 21st. Between these rain events were several days of calmer and warmer weather suitable of spring in the Deep South.

Comment of the Month - From Terrytown 3.3S (LA-[R-1) on April 22, 2012

"Minor street flooding and pea sized hail with thunderstorm(s)."

This was the comment describing a short torrential rain that measured about 1.89 inches in 45 minutes in Terrytown the morning of the 21st.

April Statistics

- Wettest Month State
 LA-JF-1 Terrytown 3.3 S
 10.02" on perfect 30 reports
- Wettest Month Local LA-JF-1 Terrytown 3.3 S 10.02" on 30 reports
- Number of Rain Days: 16
- Wettest Day State:
 LA-NT-1 Goldonna 8.8 SSW
 4.76" on the 16th
- Wettest Day Local:
 LA-JF-1 Terrytown 3.3 S
 3.38" on the 3rd
- Driest Month Local
 LA-LV-4 Denham Springs 4.1 NE
 2.68" on perfect 30 reports
- Hail Days: 3
 April 2nd—3/8" hail Grand
 Coteau 2.7E; April 3rd–1/4-3/4"
 hail Shreveport 5.3 SSE and April 5th—1/4"-5/8" hail in the
 Shreveport area from two observers.

Hurricane Season Soon

We are only a few weeks away from the start of the Atlantic Basin tropical cyclone season. Hopefully, our area may be spared, but it is always wise to prepare for possible impacts prior to the season starting full swing.

Reporting Statistics (April)

- Stations reporting: 105
- Number of reports: 2378
- Average daily reporting: 79.3

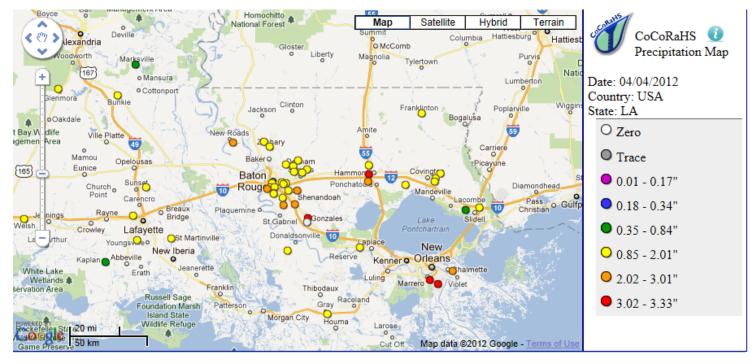
Busiest Reporting Day

- Date: April 17th
- Number of Reports: 92
- Average reported rainfall: 0.57"
- Max amount: 1.95"

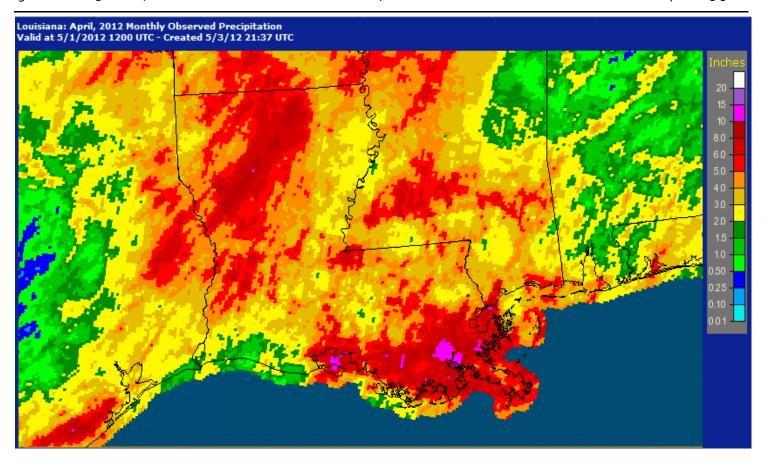
Wettest Reporting Day

- Date: April 4th
- Number of Reports: 89
- Average reported rainfall: 1.48"
- Max amount: 3.33"

Keep those rainfall and hail reports coming!



New CoCoRaHS mapping capability using Google Maps ©2012. The colored circles depict the rainfall totals recorded on the morning of April 4th, covering the heavy rainfall event from the previous 24 hours. The red dots on the map are greater than 3 inches, around the West Bank of New Orleans, Hammond and Gonzales. The max was at Terrytown 3.3S.



The monthly accumulated rainfall for April 2012 as compiled by the National Weather Service Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center. Areas south and southwest of New Orleans averaged over 10 inches with much of Southeast Louisiana receiving in excess of 5 inches for the month. A distinct dry area was noted below the greater Baton Rouge area.