



The Hoosier Observer

Indiana CoCoRaHS monthly e-newsletter

November 2021

October 2021 Statistics

Total observers reporting	577
Observers with no missing reports	298
Percent of total	52
Average Daily Reports per Day	459
Max # of Daily Reports and Day	491 / 12
Significant Weather Reports	11
Condition Monitoring Reports	41
E-T Reports	186
Max Daily Rainfall (County)	3.96" / (Lake)

As we move into the winter months we hope to see many of you continue to report your precipitation and snowfall but understand that it isn't feasible for everyone. We look forward to seeing you back next spring and wish you the best through the cold months. Even if you don't report the precipitation, you can continue to report the dry days through the cold months if you so choose. As always, feel free to reach out to any of the state coordinators if you have any questions as we enter the more complicated winter reporting season.

We'd also like to remind everyone to take a look at that monthly zeroes page on occasion to ensure that all those dry days are properly included and to help give your station that perfect month of observations. We had a lower percentage of stations with no missing data this month and often it comes down to accidentally missing those days. It takes just a few minutes and helps give the end users of your data more confidence in the data you send when it's complete!

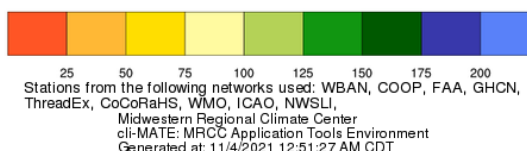
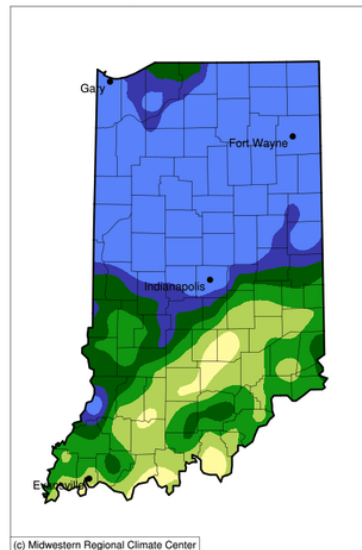
We'd also like to recognize the 9 new Indiana observers (Allen [2], Clay, De Kalb [2], Delaware Jay, Huntington, Porter) that joined CoCoRaHS in the last month. Thanks for joining the team!

October 2021 Precipitation in Indiana

The October 2021 statewide precipitation was 5.95 inches -- 2.62 inches above the 1991-2020 normals! The map shown illustrates the percentage of the 1991-2020 normal precipitation for October 2021 where most northern Indiana counties received more than twice the amount of precipitation compared to the 30-year normal period. Southern Indiana counties were predominantly near normal or slightly above normal. Of the observers that provided data *every day*, the greatest precipitation total for the month was 10.37 inches at DYER 1.0 WNW (Lake County), whereas the lowest monthly precipitation total was only 2.69 inches at (KC9WPH) MITCHELL 2.1 N (Lawrence County). Of those with *complete monthly records*, the maximum 1-day total was 3.61 inches on October 25th at St. JOHN 2.8 SE (Lake County).

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

October 01, 2021 to October 31, 2021



Winter Precipitation Training

By Beth Hall

With the winter season right around the corner, several of you have emailed asking where you can get more training on how to do winter precipitation measurements such as snowfall, snow depth, snow-water equivalent, freezing rain, etc. There are a variety of [training videos](#) on the CoCoRaHS website that are relatively short and entertaining. In addition, the Indiana CoCoRaHS coordinators are planning to host 2 identical training webinars are Monday, December 13th (1-2:30 PM ET and 6-7:30 PM ET).

CoCoRaHS Training: December 13, 2021 1:00 PM EST
Click [HERE](#) to register for this one.

CoCoRaHS Training: December 13, 2021 6:00 PM EST
Click [HERE](#) to register for this one.

The New Water Year Summary Reports

By Steve Hilberg

I hope by now you have had a chance to check out the new Water Year Summary (WYS) Reports on the CoCoRaHS web site. They are a major improvement over our old reports, with interactive charts and data that is dynamically updated. The Water Year, as defined by the U.S. Geological Survey, is for assessing surface water supply. This 12-month period captures precipitation that falls in the autumn and early winter and melts the following warm season. CoCoRaHS uses the Water Year to compile summaries of all of your observations.

There are a number of sections to the report:

- **WYS Overview** shows your report count and precipitation by month
- **Days in the Water Year** lists each daily and multi-day amount during the year. Note, if the number of daily reports plus the number of multi-day reports is greater than 365, then you have "overlapped" one or more daily reports during the year. These are identified in red on the **Days in Water Year** table. Each day should be represented by EITHER a daily precipitation report OR a multi-day report. If you need assistance in correcting this, please let us know. Usually, it is just a case of an incorrect start or stop date for the accumulation period.
- **Daily Precip Obs** includes each daily observation you entered, including comments
- **MultiDay Precip Obs** lists all the multi-day reports you entered
- **Hail Obs** lists any hail reports you entered.

With the new format of the WYS reports, you can use it to easily monitor your precipitation throughout the year to check your data. You can access your station's WYS report through the My Account menu option on the home page. An easier way is to bookmark a link to the WY2022 (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022) summary for your station. The format is <https://wys.cocorahs.org/station/IN-CC-NN/2022>, where IN-CC-NN is your station number. With this you are just a click away from a complete summary of your data!

Expand Your Observational Skills

by Steve Hilberg

It is clear from scanning the many comments we see with your rainfall observations that many of you are keen on observing the environment around you -- your gardens, what birds are visiting your feeders, and so on. A good number of observers are Master Gardeners or Master Naturalists. If you are the observant type, there is another citizen science program you may be interested in -- the USA-National Phenology Network (NPN). Phenology is the study of the seasonal timing of cyclical life events, which include bird, fish, and mammal migrations; insect emergence; plant leafing, blooming, fruiting, and changing of leaf colors in autumn; egg-laying; and emergence from hibernation. Changes in phenological events like flowering and animal migration are among the most sensitive biological responses to climate change.

The NPN consists of a National Coordinating Office (NCO), thousands of volunteer observers and many partners, including research scientists, resource managers, educators, and policy-makers. When you join the NPN's *Nature's Notebook* project, you can help contribute information on phenological responses to weather and climate. Your observations will be used to provide information for a wide range of decisions, including those made for agriculture, the control of invasive species, and even human health.

To learn more about the National Phenology Network or to join Nature's Notebook, visit the [NPN web site](#).

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.



Andrew White (andrew.j.white@noaa.gov)
 Kyle Brown (kyle.brown@noaa.gov)
 Beth Hall (bethhall@purdue.edu)