



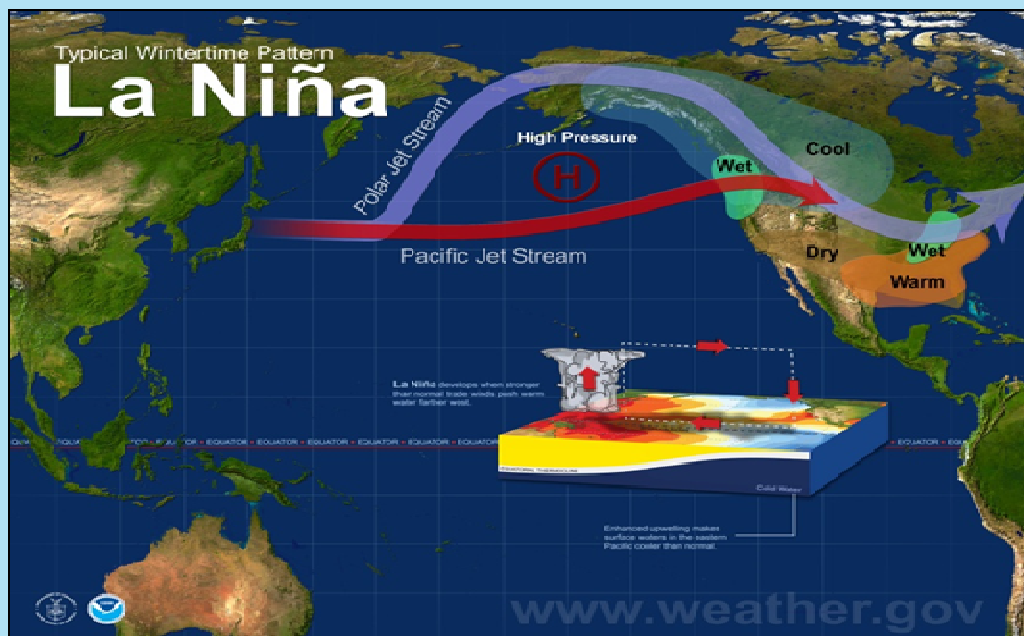
CoCoRaHS Collections

"Because Every Drop Counts"

The Ohio Newsletter

Fall 2010

The Climate Report - Winter Outlook



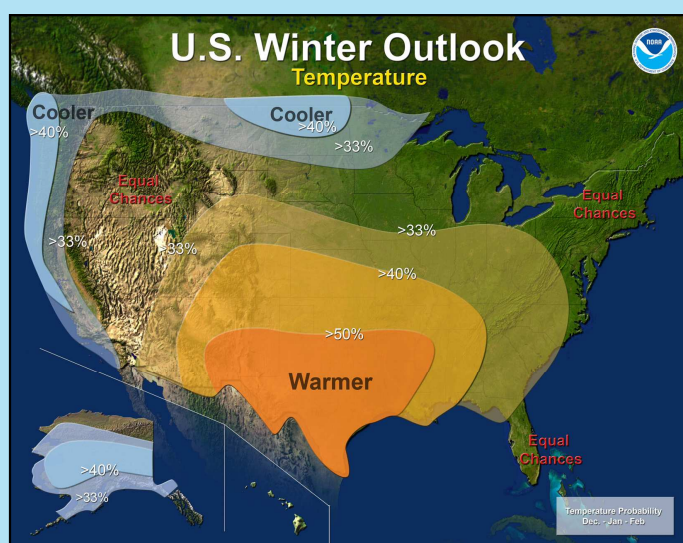
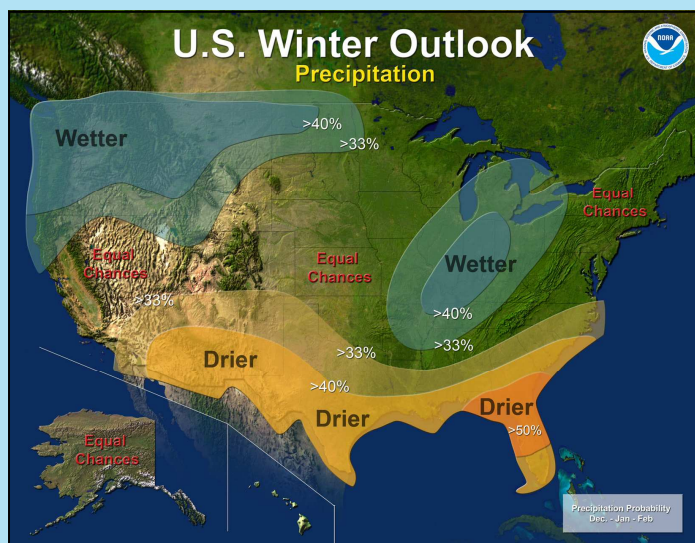
A moderate to strong La Niña will be present this winter. La Niña is associated with cooler than normal water temperatures in the Equatorial Pacific Ocean. La Niña and El Niño occur about every 2 to 5 years. What does La Niña mean for the Ohio Valley? In a typical La Niña pattern the storm track is pushed further to the north, which means the Ohio Valley has an increased likelihood of seeing warmer and wetter than average conditions this winter. With this typical pattern the area is likely to see increased storminess and flooding.

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Of the stations that reported everyday, what were the highest and lowest precipitation totals?

OH-LK-11 4.56 Inches
OH-WL-5 6.42 Inches





Your Hard Work...IN ACTION!

Please submit your 'how you use CoCoRaHS data' to Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov

For many of us, taking our daily precipitation observation has become like second nature. We check that clock and head out to take our observation, curious about what the results will be. How much rainfall will I have? How does my snowfall measurement compare to others around the county? For others, it can sometimes be hard to find the motivation to go out and read the gauge. Across Ohio, there are both ends of the spectrum. But, no matter what end of the spectrum you are on, it is important to take a closer look at 'Why CoCoRaHS?' Below is a list of just a few of the reasons that your CoCoRaHS observation means so much. Your dedication and observation goes a long way!

Your CoCoRaHS Report...

- *helps to capture accurate measurements of localized heavy rainfalls responsible for deadly flash flooding and main stream river flooding.
- *increases the climatological rainfall monitoring network by several hundred percent.
- *provides real-time information on hail and intense rainfall that aids in the issuing and verifying of life saving warnings and advisories when an Intense Precipitation Report is issued or a Hail Report is issued.
- *provides detail of extremely localized rainfall patterns for drought monitoring.
- *provides tremendous amounts of additional data to Regional River Forecast Centers, to aid in the monitoring and prediction of river flows and flooding conditions.
- *serves as quality control information to help verify measurements from other networks that might be questionable.
- *establishes a large database of good quality precipitation observations for local analysis and study.
- *mobilizes a pool of extremely interested local weather enthusiasts who could be considered to help fill gaps in the National Weather Service co-op network caused by the retirement or departure of an observer.
- *creates excellent working partnerships amongst local, state, and federal government agencies, emergency management officials, academic institutions, agricultural interests, and the media.
- *provides additional material for school curriculum which includes the measurement of precipitation and standard observing practices into science education.

CoCoRaHS Photo Spotlight



Do you have a CoCoRaHS picture that you would like to have featured in an upcoming newsletter? If so, please e-mail Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov with the picture and a caption. This photo was taken by observer OH-CN-6 or Wilmington 3.6 W. This CoCoRaHS gauge photo was taken during a foggy sunrise in November. The CoCoRaHS gauge photo on the next page was taken the same morning.



Fall 2010 Honor Roll

From September 1, 2010 through November 30, 2010, these Ohio stations reported everyday. Here are those stations who get a thumbs up for their dedication!

THANK YOU to all of our observers for their consistent reporting!

OH-AT-2
OH-AT-5
OH-BT-1
OH-CB-2
OH-CC-1
OH-CK-1

OH-CN-1
OH-CN-6
OH-CW-3
OH-CY-4
OH-DF-1
OH-DR-1

OH-FR-8
OH-HM-2
OH-HM-5
OH-JC-2
OH-LC-1
OH-LK-1

OH-LR-2
OH-LR-8
OH-MD-2
OH-MM-1
OH-MM-2
OH-MY-5

OH-PB-1
OH-PT-12
OH-RS-1
OH-SD-2
OH-SD-3
OH-SM-5

OH-SM-14
OH-SN-1
OH-SN-3
OH-TS-1
OH-VN-1
OH-WL-2

OH-WL-5
OH-WN-1



500 Club!

Congratulations to our newest 500 Club members! These observers have reported everyday, or almost everyday, since they began observing for CoCoRaHS in Ohio. We look forward to adding on to this list with the next newsletter as more of you hit this amazing milestone.



OH-AT-5
OH-FF-1
OH-FR-10
OH-KN-1
OH-LK-5
OH-LS-14
OH-MR-3
OH-MD-1

OH-MM-2
OH-MY-4
OH-MY-6
OH-OT-2
OH-OT-3
OH-RC-3
OH-TR-1
OH-WL-2

Why the CoCoRaHS Rain Gauge?

Many people ask, why does CoCoRaHS use the 4" diameter gauge pictured to the right? The Colorado Climate Center has been involved in rain gauge studies for many years. The results of these studies found that the CoCoRaHS rain gauge compares well to the National Weather Service 8" diameter Standard Rain Gauge. The majority of automated rain gauges however, when summed up over several months or years, report significantly less precipitation. In addition, if all different kinds of gauges were utilized across the United States, it would be too hard to determine biases in each instrument. Can you still utilize your automated gauge or other gauge for CoCoRaHS? We ask that for your daily precipitation report that you report data from your CoCoRaHS rain gauge only. As a comparison, in the comments section of the daily precipitation form you can add any other gauge data you may have. Each gauge is different and it can be interesting to see the differences in data that gauges provide.



Is there a specific topic that you would like to hear more about? Maybe you have a question that you would like answered in a future newsletter? Many of the stories featured in the newsletters are due to observer's questions and comments. If you have a topic you would like to hear more about e-mail

Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov

Newsletter

CoCoRaHS Collections The Ohio CoCoRaHS Newsletter

E-mail:
Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov

Because Every Drop Counts

www.cocorahs.org



Helpful Links for Ohio CoCoRaHS Observers

Obtain replacement or extra equipment from our official suppliers:

<http://www.weatheryourway.com/cocorahs/store.html>

<http://www.ambientweather.com/strgloteprra.html>

For information on Ohio Climate:

<http://www.geography.osu.edu/faculty/rogers/statclim.html>

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/>

For Current Forecasts and Severe Weather Warnings:

<http://www.weather.gov>

For river information:

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps/>

For drought information:

<http://drought.unl.edu/dml/>

<http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/>



Reporting Revisited-Snow

The first snows have already come and gone across the state and soon more snow will be on the way. Snow can sometimes be tricky to measure especially if wind is added to the mix. For an in depth review of snow measuring visit the CoCoRaHS website and click on Training Slide-Shows or e-mail your local/state coordinator. The following are some items to remember during the winter months.

*When snow or freezing temperatures are expected, remove your funnel and inner tube and bring them inside.

*Measure the depth of new snow on the snowboard to the nearest tenth of an inch.

*Measure the depth of total snow (new and old) on the ground to the nearest half inch.

*Measure the total rain and melted snow in your rain gauge to the nearest hundredth of an inch.

*Remember to report the depth of total snow (new and old) on the ground until no snow remains.

*(Optional) A core sample can be taken to enhance your

CoCoRaHS observation.

*The snow/water equivalent ratio is dependent on many factors and therefore it is important to melt the precipitation in your gauge in order to get an accurate measurement.

*Sleet is reported the same as snowfall, however you can mention sleet in your comments section as well.

*Freezing rain is reported as rain, however additional information can be added to the comments section on how much ice has accumulated.