



CoCoRaHS Collections

“Because Every Drop Counts”

The Ohio Newsletter

Fall 2011

La Niña Revisits for Another Winter A 2010 and 2011 Comparison

The winter outlook for last winter (bottom) and the winter outlook for this winter (top) look very similar. The reason for this is that last winter and this winter are both in a La Niña cycle. In a typical La Niña winter the storm track is pushed further to the north and therefore the Ohio Valley has an increased likelihood of seeing warmer and wetter than average conditions. With La Niña, the precipitation signal is usually stronger than the temperature signal for this area. One big difference between the winter of last year and this year is that last year we were in a moderate to strong La Niña whereas this year we are expecting a weak to moderate La Niña, therefore the signal is not as distinct as it was last year.

Although La Niña is an indicative climate signal, there are many other sub-seasonal climate indicators and features that can influence storm tracks and what we actually experience during the winter. These different climate signals can negate or enhance what we would typically see in a La Niña winter. For example, last winter, what started out as generally a cold and snowy winter with below normal precipitation ended with a more typical La Niña pattern with above normal temperatures and precipitation. This is in part due to the La Niña signal typically being stronger in the January, February, and March time-frame. During February is when the Ohio Valley started to transition over to the warmer and wetter La Niña pattern. (Continued on page 2)

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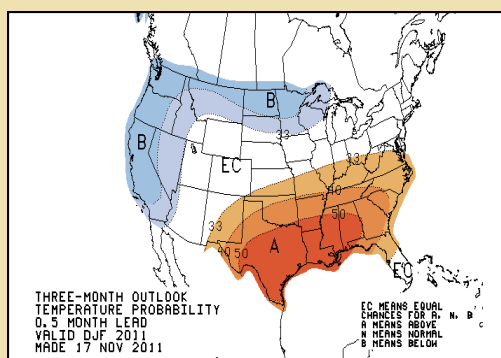
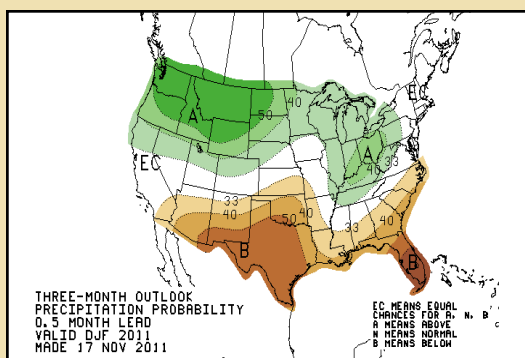
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A special thank you to those listed below for contributing to this newsletter!

-Climate Prediction Center for the use of their graphics and insight

-Julian Turner,

CoCoRaHS Headquarters

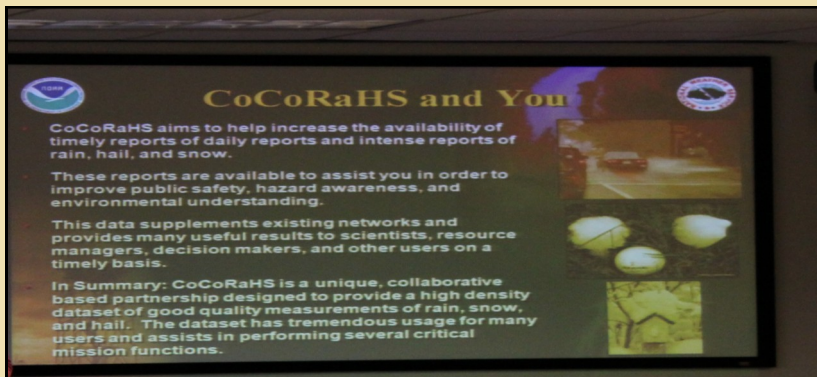


La Niña Revisits for Another Winter (Continued from page 1)

As we get deeper into winter the Climate Prediction Center will continue to update their thoughts on the rest of winter and what we can expect into spring. For more information on the Climate Prediction Center and the products that they produce, please visit www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov. The one month and three month outlooks are highlighted on the front home page of Climate Prediction Center's website in addition to other products and information produced by the Climate Prediction Center.

CoCoRaHS Highlighted at Workshop

Recently the National Weather Service in Wilmington, Ohio held workshops with area emergency managers and members of the media. One part of this workshop was to discuss CoCoRaHS, the importance of CoCoRaHS reports, and the role CoCoRaHS plays in improving public safety, hazard awareness, and environmental understanding. CoCoRaHS was discussed as a unique, collaborative based partnership that provides a high density dataset of good quality measurements of rain, snow, and hail. Whether this be through daily precipitation reports, hail reports, or significant weather reports, the data you provide has tremendous usage for many users and assists in performing several critical mission functions. CoCoRaHS shows the important role individuals play in measuring, mapping, and reporting precipitation. CoCoRaHS, Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network. The name really says it all. All of us make up the CoCoRaHS community and it is because of this community aspect that CoCoRaHS is both unique and a success.



Are You Moving?

Are you moving? Don't forget to pack your rain gauge! With CoCoRaHS in all 50 states CoCoRaHS can move with you. If you are moving within the same county as you are currently in then you can even keep your previous station number. We can just adjust your station name to reflect your new location. If you are moving to another county in the state or across the country you get to receive a brand new station number and station name. Please e-mail your regional and/or state coordinator with your new address and we will update your account with the new information.





Above and Beyond



Can you believe that CoCoRaHS has been in Ohio for almost three years? CoCoRaHS began in Ohio in early 2009 and thanks to you CoCoRaHS has grown ever since then to where it is today. Some of you have been with us since the beginning while others have joined along the way. Through rain and snow we have made our way through the seasons to our gauges and to our snowboards to take our important observations. Often times, we never know what we might find in the gauge, whether it be three inches of rain or spiders that have made their home during a drought. Some observers have now made this journey over 1,000 times at their current location. Thank you for your dedication!

Ohio CoCoRaHS would like to thank you for your time and energy with the Bronze Observer Award. The Bronze Observer Award is presented to observers who have submitted 1,000 daily precipitation reports at their current location. As we continue our CoCoRaHS journey, observers who achieve 2,000 daily precipitation reports will reach the Silver Snowflake Award level. For observers who report 3,000 daily precipitation reports, they will achieve the Golden Rain Drop Award status. These awards will be updated at the end of each quarter and the award certificate will be mailed directly to you! This quarter we honor the following observers for becoming a Bronze Observer Award winner:
OH-AT-1, OH-AT-2, OH-AT-3, OH-BT-1, OH-CB-2, OH-CK-1, OH-CN-1, OH-CY-4, OH-DR-1, OH-FR-1, OH-FR-3, OH-LK-1, OH-LR-2, OH-MD-2, OH-MM-1, OH-MY-5, OH-PB-1, OH-SD-2, OH-SD-3, OH-SN-1, OH-TS-1, OH-WD-3, AND OH-WN-1.

A special thank you as well to those of you who have reported everyday this year and every year. Starting this year we will be awarding the Daily Gauge Award to observers who have submitted a daily precipitation report every day this year. If you have achieved this success, expect to receive your award certificate in January 2012. Thank you!!!

Fall 2011 Honor Roll

From September 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011, these Ohio stations reported everyday. Here are those stations who get a thumbs up for their dedication!

OH-AT-1
OH-AT-2
OH-BT-1
OH-CB-2
OH-CC-1
OH-CK-1
OH-CN-6
OH-CN-10

OH-CW-3
OH-CY-4
OH-CY-16
OH-DF-1
OH-DR-1
OH-FR-2
OH-FR-3
OH-FR-8

OH-FR-21
OH-FR-22
OH-FR-23
OH-GG-4
OH-LK-1
OH-LR-2
OH-LR-6
OH-LR-8

OH-LS-14
OH-MD-2
OH-MG-1
OH-MM-1
OH-MY-5
OH-PB-1
OH-PT-12
OH-SC-4

OH-SD-2
OH-SD-3
OH-SH-10
OH-SH-13
OH-SM-5
OH-SM-14
OH-SN-1
OH-SN-3

OH-VN-1
OH-WL-5
OH-WN-1
OH-WR-8



500 Club!

Congratulations to our newest 500 Club members! These observers have submitted at least 500 daily precipitation reports since becoming a CoCoRaHS observer. We look forward to adding onto this list with the next newsletter. Way to go!

OH-AZ-1
OH-CC-1
OH-HM-13
OH-LR-8
OH-MW-2
OH-SM-14
OH-WL-5
OH-WY-1



Newsletter

CoCoRaHS Collections
The Ohio CoCoRaHS Newsletter

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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/dmi/>

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



Wet Year Depicts Importance of Precipitation Reports

As was mentioned in the story on page one, last winter ended with above normal precipitation. That trend continued through most of the remainder of the year with numerous thunderstorms through the summer and slow moving weather systems this fall. Of the stations that submitted daily precipitation reports each day this fall the highest and lowest rainfall totals across the state are listed to the right. Although many locations saw precipitation totals above normal fall values, these precipitation totals varied greatly from station to station. The values on the right reiterate the importance of precipitation reports in mapping this variable precipitation. This fall alone there was over an 8.5 inch difference in some locations across Ohio.

With another La Niña pattern shaping up for this winter, the area is likely to see increased storminess and flooding continuing into the winter months. Due to this, here is a reminder of the flood products you may see.

Flash Flood Warning
Flood Warning (Areal)
Flood Warning (River)
Flood Advisory

Flash Flood Watch
Flood Watch



Highest Rainfall Totals This Fall:

OH-DF-1 21.87 Inches

OH-CY-4 21.14 Inches

OH-LK-1 20.88 Inches

Lowest Rainfall Totals This Fall:

OH-FR-23 12.41 Inches

OH-CB-2 13.16 Inches

OH-FR-2 13.29 Inches