



# CoCoRaHS Collections

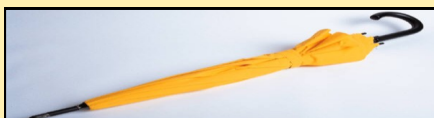
*“Because Every Drop Counts”*

The Ohio Newsletter

Fall 2012



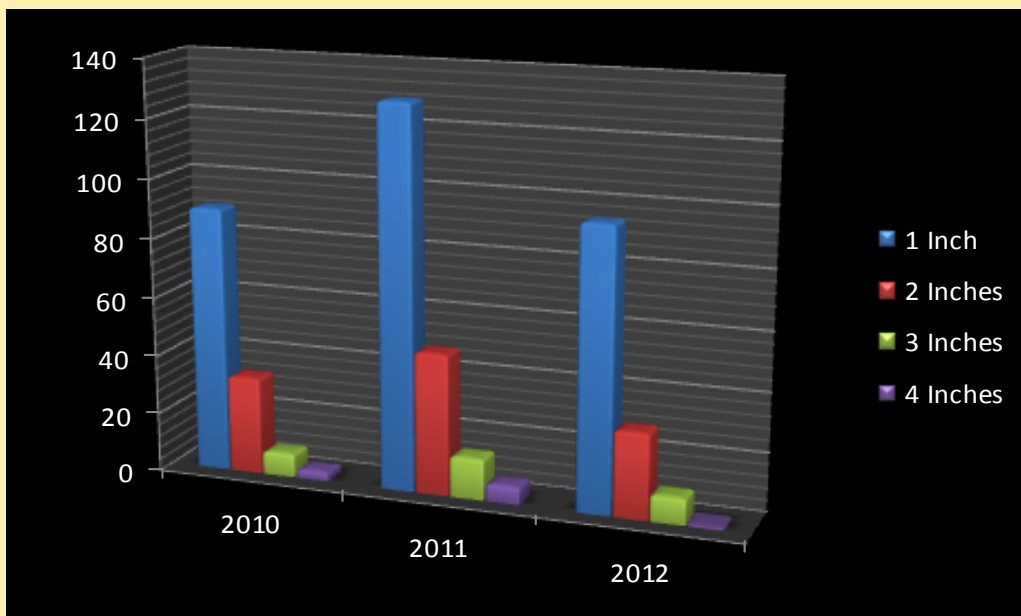
## Rainy Day Statistics



If you think back over the past three years you may remember the weather from several of those days. Maybe you had to drive through a torrential down-pour with one of these events. Possibly you remember going out to check your rain gauge, seeing the inner tube overflowing with rain, and the outer tube getting a nice cleaning as well.

With some of those large precipitation totals the rain was needed, while other days flooding ensued because of the continued day after day heavy rain events or because there was just too much rain in too little amount of time. Taking a look back at the past three years in Ohio shows us how much year-to-year variability can occur across the state and how different the rainfall values from one CoCoRaHS observer to another can be.

The graph below depicts the number of days in the January 1st to November 30th time frame in 2010, 2011, and 2012 where at least one observer experienced an inch, two inches, three inches, or four inches of precipitation in Ohio. 2011 was by far the top year out of the three when it came to the number of days that heavier precipitation fell in Ohio. (Continued on page 2)



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

-Julian Turner,  
CoCoRaHS Headquarters

-The websites of  
CoCoRaHS, the U.S.  
Drought Monitor,  
National Climatic Data  
Center, and the Climate  
Prediction Center

-CoCoRaHS observer  
OH-HM-5  
Cheviot 0.9 SSE

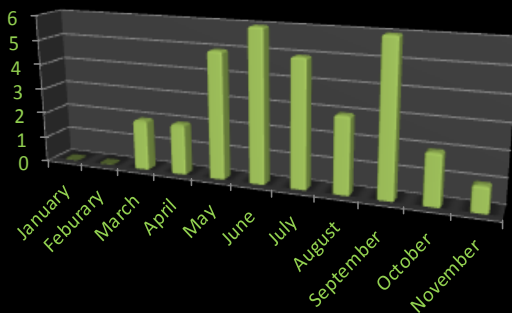
-You!

## Rainy Day Statistics (Continued From Page 1)

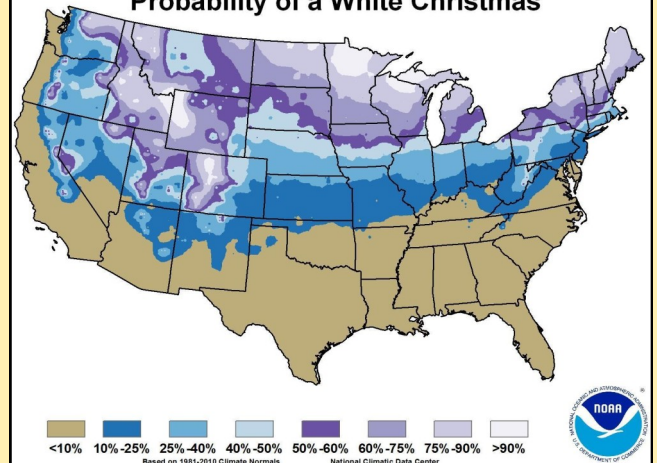
Looking at the other end of the spectrum, the number of days where no precipitation fell at all across the state in 2010 and 2012 were both 41 days, while in 2011 Ohio experienced only 24 days where no stations reported precipitation. In addition to having the fewest statewide dry days, 2011 also had the highest number of days, out of the three years, where snow was reported somewhere in the state.

If we take a look at the days in a year that had one of the top 10 highest precipitation day totals (values ranged from 2.89 inches to 8.50 inches of precipitation in one day and only the top report from a day was included) in which month would we find them? As with the previous datasets, December has been excluded here since we do not yet have complete data from December 2012. In addition, there was a three-way-tie for the number 10 spot in 2012 and therefore all three days were included. The results are not actually too surprising. Late Spring to early Fall experienced the most days where the highest precipitation totals in the state occurred. The big winners? June and September tied at 6 days. Typically and luckily, during the late Spring to early Fall time frame the ground is not frozen or not as frozen and therefore it takes more precipitation to cause flooding than in your winter months when the ground can be frozen and more run-off occurs.

### Number of Days With the Highest Precipitation Values



### Probability of a White Christmas



So where are we now and where are we headed over the next few months? Quite a few locations in Ohio experienced a pretty dry November with several locations receiving less than an inch of rain for the entire month. As of December 11th, portions of southwest and northwest Ohio were still experiencing abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions. The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook (valid for December 6, 2012-February 28, 2013) indicates that there will probably be improvement (at least 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor Intensity levels). In addition, the three month outlook from the Climate Prediction Center indicates an increased likelihood of above normal precipitation across southern portions of the state.

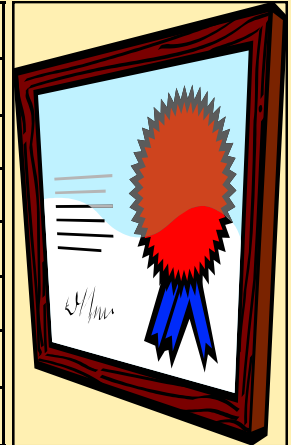
While we are looking at precipitation statistics, many may be interested in what the probability of a white Christmas is across Ohio. The image above was created by the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) and incorporates data from observing stations with at least 25 years or more of snow depth measurements from 1981-2010. A "white Christmas" is defined as having an inch or more of snow on the ground on Christmas morning.



## Bronze Observer Award-1000 Daily Precipitation Reports

Congratulations to our new Bronze Observer Award members! These individuals have reported over 1000 daily precipitation reports. You should receive your award certificate in the mail soon! Thank you for your daily dedication to CoCoRaHS!

OH-AT-7	New Marshfield 1.6 SW
OH-FF-5	Pickerington 2.7 NNE
OH-GG-3	South Russell 2.0 W
OH-HC-2	Findlay 7.2 SSW
OH-LS-9	Sylvania 1.4 WNW
OH-PT-7	Ravenna 3.9 NNE
OH-PT-9	Hiram 0.4 N
OH-PT-12	Mogadore 4.7 SE



## 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-AT-11	Guysville 6.5 SSW
OH-BR-4	Fayetteville 2.2 S
OH-DL-2	Westerville 4.0 N
OH-ER-5	Wakeman 4.6 NNE
OH-FL-2	Wauseon 0.2 SE
OH-HC-6	Findlay 3.4 E
OH-MC-1	Celina 1.8 ENE
OH-SH-10	Russia 1.3 NNE
OH-SH-11	Houston 1.3 NNE
OH-WD-12	Bowling Green 2.7 NW
OH-WL-6	Pioneer 0.3 NE



## Fall 2012 Honor Roll

From September 1, 2012 through November 30, 2012, these Ohio stations reported everyday. Here are those stations who get a thumbs up for their dedication!

OH-AT-1  
OH-AT-2  
OH-AT-12  
OH-CB-2  
OH-CC-1  
OH-CK-1  
OH-CN-1  
OH-CR-1

OH-CW-3  
OH-CY-4  
OH-CY-16  
OH-DF-1  
OH-DR-1  
OH-ER-11  
OH-FF-5  
OH-FR-3

OH-FR-8  
OH-FR-22  
OH-FR-23  
OH-HM-13  
OH-HY-5  
OH-LC-1  
OH-LR-10  
OH-LS-1

OH-MD-2  
OH-MM-1  
OH-MY-5  
OH-MY-17  
OH-PB-1  
OH-SC-4  
OH-SD-2  
OH-SD-9

OH-SH-4  
OH-SH-10  
OH-SH-11  
OH-SH-15  
OH-SM-5  
OH-SM-16  
OH-SN-1  
OH-SN-3

OH-WL-2  
OH-WL-5  
OH-WR-8  
OH-WR-10  
OH-WR-14



## Newsletter

**CoCoRaHS Collections**  
**The Ohio CoCoRaHS Newsletter**

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**Because Every Drop Counts**

[www.cocorahs.org](http://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/dm/>

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



## CoCoRaHS Story – OH-HM-5

*Want to share your CoCoRaHS story for a future newsletter? If so, please e-mail [Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov](mailto:Ashley.Novak@noaa.gov). We look forward to hearing about your CoCoRaHS story.*

OH-HM-5 or Cheviot 0.9 SSE joined CoCoRaHS shortly after CoCoRaHS began in Ohio, however his interest in weather began many years before CoCoRaHS. In fact, OH-HM-5 began first taking daily rainfall and snowfall records in 1975 when he was in 5th grade! He has always been fascinated by the weather and has carried that passion through many years of weather observing. In first grade his teacher bestowed upon him the honor of being the class weatherman. He would circulate to various classrooms to give the weather forecast, which he recited from listening to a recorded National Weather Service phone message. Growing up, his father fostered his passion for weather by bringing him to meet NWS meteorologists.

Although he has experienced and observed many types of weather, a few events stand out to him. Several of these events were the large snowfalls during the winters of 1977, 1978, and 1979. The largest single rainfall total he measured in a 24-hour period was 4.59 inches with the remnants of Hurricane Frederick in September of 1979. In more recent memory, OH-HM-5 remembers when Ike impacted the area with strong damaging winds. Although there was a general lack of precipitation with Ike across the area, some very light precipitation occurred at OH-HM-5 that day.

Cheviot 0.9 SSE knows of the many impacts weather can have. His weather records and knowledge of trends come in handy in his work as an arborist. From 1st grade to his current years as a CoCoRaHS observer, OH-HM-5 continues to live his passion for the weather. This is his CoCoRaHS story. What is your CoCoRaHS story?