



CoCoRaHS Collections

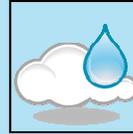
“Because Every Drop Counts”

The Ohio Newsletter

Winter 2010-2011



2010-2011 Winter Review



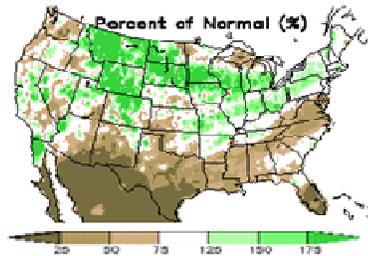
Inside this issue:

As was indicated in the previous newsletter, 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 during the winter. With this typical pattern the area is likely to see increased storminess and flooding. What started out as generally a cold and snowy winter with below normal precipitation is ending with above normal temperatures and precipitation. The images depicted below show the percent of average precipitation over the last 30 days ending on February 27th and the last 90 days, in addition to the 30 day temperature departure and 90 day temperature departure. The last 30 days are more indicative of a La Niña pattern than the whole 90 day period, which reflects the drier and colder beginning to winter. So why is this and what can we expect in the upcoming months around the area? The La Niña signal is strongest 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. On page 2 there is a graphic that shows the Climate Prediction Center’s one month outlook for March. In this image we can see that the effects of La Niña are expected to continue across the area with an (continued on page 2)

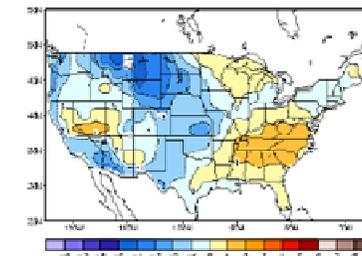
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Last 30 Days

30-day (ending 27 Feb 2011) % of average precipitation

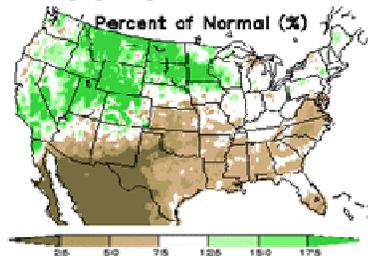


30-day (ending 26 Feb 2011) temperature departures (degree C)

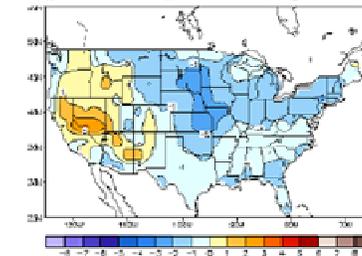


Last 90 Days

90-day (ending 27 Feb 2011) % of average precipitation



90-day (ending 26 Feb 2011) temperature departures (degree C)



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

Highest

- OH-GG-4 11.21 Inches
- OH-PT-8 11.20 Inches
- OH-AT-3 10.75 Inches

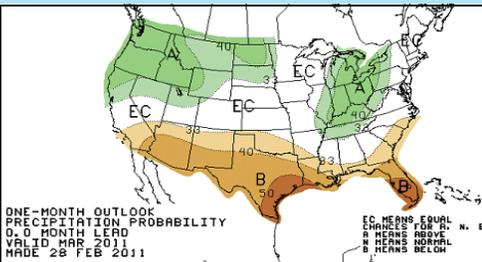
Lowest

- OH-DR-1 6.12 Inches
- OH-WD-3 6.23 Inches
- OH-SN-3 6.50 Inches

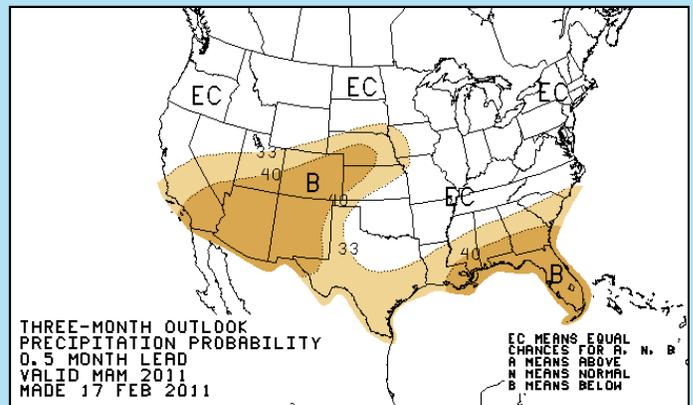
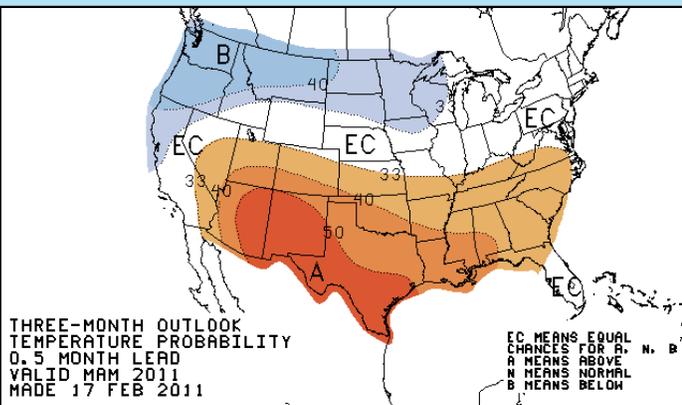
Special thanks to the Climate Prediction Center for the use of their graphics and insight for this newsletter.

2010-2011 Winter Review Continued

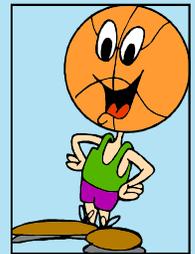
(continued from page 1) increased likelihood of seeing wetter than average conditions across the area. Over the next few months however, La Niña will begin to weaken and therefore we will be headed into more of an ENSO (El Niño/Southern Oscillation) neutral period. With an ENSO neutral period there is less of a clear signal across the Ohio Valley as is indicated by the equal chances indicator across the area. In other words, equal chances is assigned when there is no forecast tool that favors either above (A) or below (B) conditions. The chance of these two categories is defined to be 33.33% each and therefore the region is labeled equal chances (EC). Below are the three month outlooks (March, April, and May) for temperature and precipitation probabilities.



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 March Madness



Do you enjoy CoCoRaHS and want others to get the same experience? Do you know of someone who would like to help save lives by becoming a CoCoRaHS observer? March is a great time to encourage others to join the CoCoRaHS experience. "CoCoRaHS March Madness" is a state by state contest to see which state encourages the most individuals to join the CoCoRaHS experience. There will be two judging methods, one based on the greatest number of new observers in a state and one based on the state that gains the greatest number of observers per one million of the state's total population in March. Join us in this fun event and let's carry Ohio CoCoRaHS to the top!

Winter 2010-2011 Honor Roll

From December 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011, 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-1
OH-AT-3
OH-AT-12
OH-CB-2
OH-CC-1
OH-CK-1

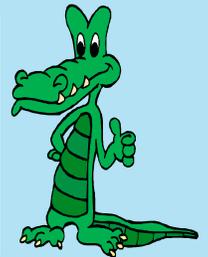
OH-CN-1
OH-CY-4
OH-DF-1
OH-DR-1
OH-FF-5
OH-FR-2

OH-FR-8
OH-GG-4
OH-HR-2
OH-LK-1
OH-LR-6
OH-LR-8

OH-MD-2
OH-MM-1
OH-MY-5
OH-PB-1
OH-PT-8
OH-PT-12

OH-SC-4
OH-SD-2
OH-SD-3
OH-SH-4
OH-SM-5
OH-SM-14

OH-SN-1
OH-SN-3
OH-TR-4
OH-TS-1
OH-WD-3



500 Club!

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

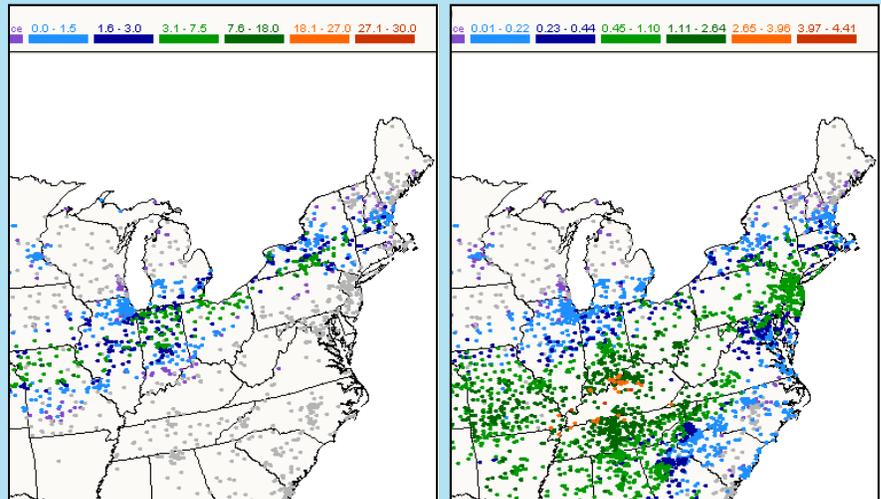


OH-AT-6
OH-AT-7
OH-CN-6
OH-GG-3
OH-HC-2
OH-LR-3
OH-LS-9
OH-SN-3
OH-TR-1

Your Hard Work...IN ACTION!

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

A strong low pressure system moved near the Ohio River during evening of February 24th and into the morning on the 25th. As the system impacted the area there was a wide variety of impacts across the state with locations across the north receiving heavy snow and across the south heavy rain. CoCoRaHS reports were influential in defining locations where flooding was possible. With the quick warm-up and additional rainfall after this event, the snow-water equivalent values became a valued resource for improving river flood forecasts across the state.



Snowfall (left) and rainfall (right) over a 24-hr period ending ~ 7:00 am February 25, 2011.

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/dm/>

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



Reporting Revisited-How do you report your daily observation when you cannot report part of your observation?

There are times when while taking your observation the rain/melted snow part of the daily precipitation report or one of the snowfall values cannot be entered into the form. This may occur for a variety of reasons, but if it does then you can still enter the information that you do have onto the observation form. If you have missing data for a certain field it is best not to enter 0.0 or any other amount if you do not have the data. Instead, you can enter NA into the report for the data entry section you do not have. For example, if you go out to your gauge and accidentally drop the gauge before getting a precipitation reading then you can enter NA into your Rain and Melted Snow portion. You were able to measure your snowfall for the day however, and therefore you could still enter that portion of the report. By using this method you can report the information you have and accurately report the information you do not have.

NA

*Rain and Melted Snow to the nearest hundredth inch that has fallen in the gauge during the past 24 hours ?

New Snowfall

0.2

Accumulation of new snow in inches to the nearest **tenth** ?

NA

Melted value from core to the nearest **hundredth** ?