



## Your Zeroes Are Data Too!

With a lull in rain right now, it's a great time to talk about how zeroes are just as important as any other amount. That's because zeroes are data, too! It's just as important to know where it didn't rain! In the last newsletter, we highlighted how CoCoRaHS data maps precipitation variability and how we can spot where the heaviest rainfall fell. Well, zeroes play a role in that mapping, too!

Want a quick and easy way to input all your zeroes for the month? The "Monthly Zeroes" feature in your CoCoRaHS account allows you to quickly enter all your zeroes for the month. Give it a try sometime!

## Is My Report's Observation Time Really That Important?

The short answer is yes! It actually is. Your observation time is automatically populated for you in your daily report, and it's the time that you are supposed to check your rain gauge. For most of you, this is usually between 7am and 9am each morning. But we get it. Sometimes things happen. Sometimes you just want to sleep in, and your rain gauge gets checked a little later. Be sure to update your observation time in your report to reflect the time you checked your gauge! This is particularly important if it's raining during your normal observation time. If you're waiting after your normal time to measure your precipitation, your value will be higher than those around you. Updating your observation time provides context as to *why* your amount is so different. And it prevents your report getting flagged in the QC process!

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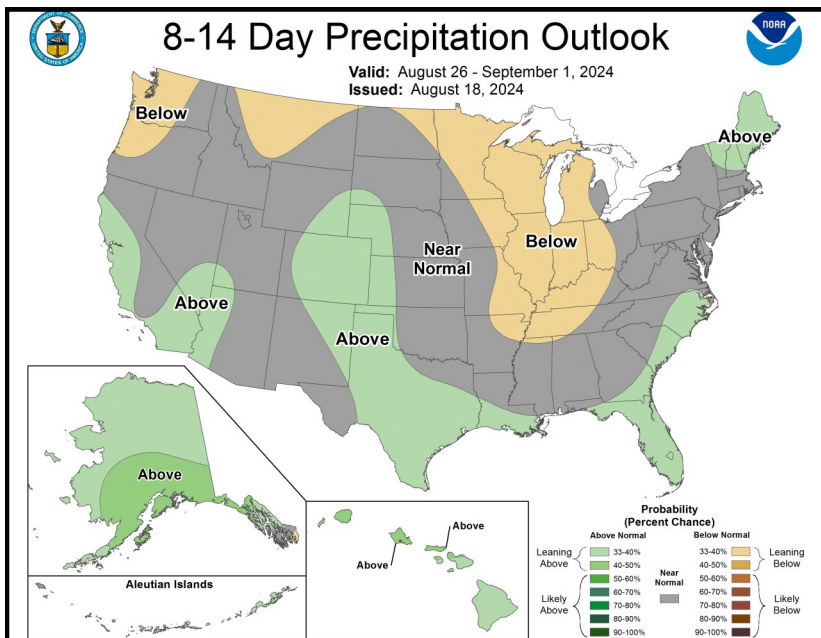
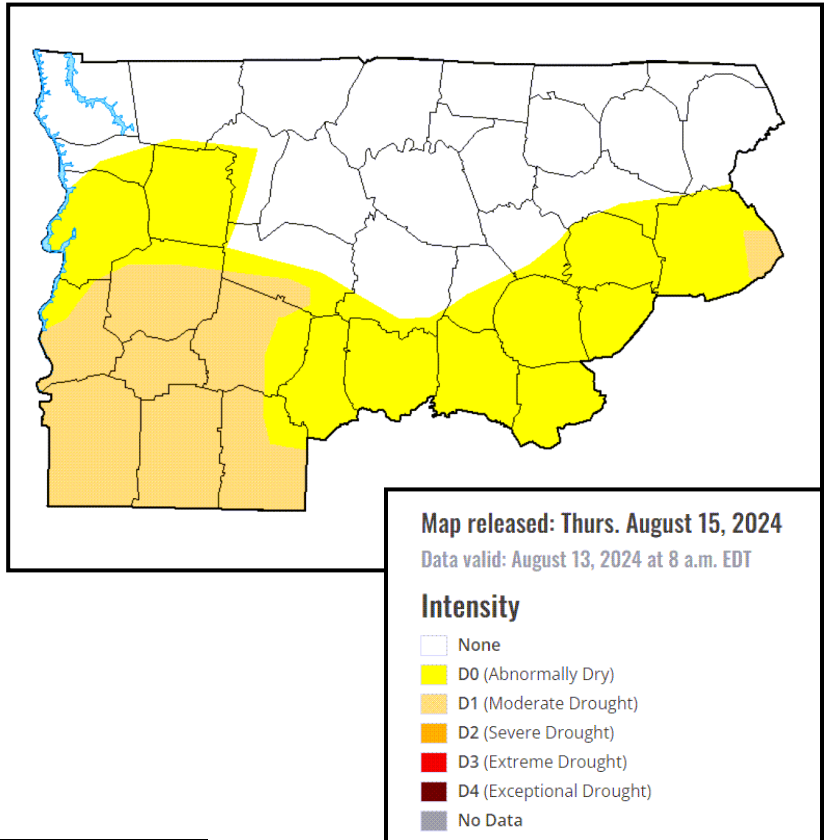
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# Drought Improvement!

## (But Not Out of the Woods Yet...)

The latest drought monitor has shown improvement across Middle TN. This time last month, much of southern and eastern areas were in severe drought conditions with extreme drought noted in Lawrence and Giles counties. We've gotten some much needed rainfall since then, and now we just have abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions across the area.



The bad news? We're entering another dry pattern which means further improvement may be unlikely. Looking ahead, the Climate Prediction Center's Precipitation Outlook doesn't provide much hope as the 8-14 Day Outlook favors below normal precipitation across Middle TN. Without any appreciable rainfall soon, drought conditions may persist or worsen again, unfortunately.

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## Meet Cedric!

Cedric is the longest serving CoCoRaHS observer in Rutherford County, having been a part of the program for 17 years. But Cedric has been recording rainfall for years prior for gardening purposes, and he has been a weather enthusiast since childhood. Cedric's favorite part of CoCoRaHS is comparing the vast differences in rainfall from observers that may only be a few miles apart. His most memorable event as an observer was the May 2010 Flood. During this event, he recorded 11.5 inches of rain over the course of two days. Other events that Cedric remembers include Hurricane Andrew in 1992 when he was living in Tampa and the Nashville tornado of 1998. Cedric retired two years ago from Genesco, and he enjoys attending Titans and Predators games and traveling.

I would love to recognize and highlight YOU in these newsletters! If you're interested, tell me about yourself via [this form](#).

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