



CoCoRaHS Collections

"Because Every Drop Counts"

The Ohio Newsletter

Spring 2011

April Showers Bring May Flowers... And More Showers

This Spring was one for the record books across Ohio. Many of you braved the raindrops and were part of recording this historic rainfall. Persistent upper level troughs over the eastern United States led to an active storm track over the Ohio Valley this Spring and with this active storm track, copious amounts of rainfall. All three months, March, April, and May, recorded above normal rainfall in many locations. April on average was the wettest of the three months across the state. Cincinnati and Cleveland recorded the wettest Spring since records began and Columbus had their third wettest Spring since records began. Generally the highest precipitation amounts were across southwest portions of the state with generally lesser amounts to the northeast. This can be seen with your CoCoRaHS reports and also with the map on the next page showing a 90 day period including the months March, April, and May. Of the stations that reported everyday during the Spring, OH-HM-5 in Hamilton County had the highest precipitation total with 24.62 inches and across the state in Summit County OH-SM-5 received the least amount of rainfall, although still well above normal, at 15.11 inches. Many farmers are involved with CoCoRaHS across the state and they can tell you as I am sure many of you have seen, this heavy rainfall caused significant delays in the planting of crops.

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

Highest

OH-HM-5 Cheviot 0.9 SSE 24.62 Inches

Lowest

OH-SM-5 Cuyahoga Falls 1.1 ESE 15.11 Inches



Cincinnati

1. 24.78 Inches 2011*
2. 22.98 Inches 1996
3. 21.27 Inches 1933
4. 20.04 Inches 1964
5. 19.18 Inches 1945

Columbus

1. 19.22 Inches 1882
2. 17.90 Inches 1964
3. 17.62 Inches 2011*
4. 17.46 Inches 1945
5. 15.60 Inches 1996

Cleveland

1. 18.21 Inches 2011*
2. 16.33 Inches 1989
3. 14.57 Inches 1947
4. 14.31 Inches 1955
5. 13.70 Inches 1956

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

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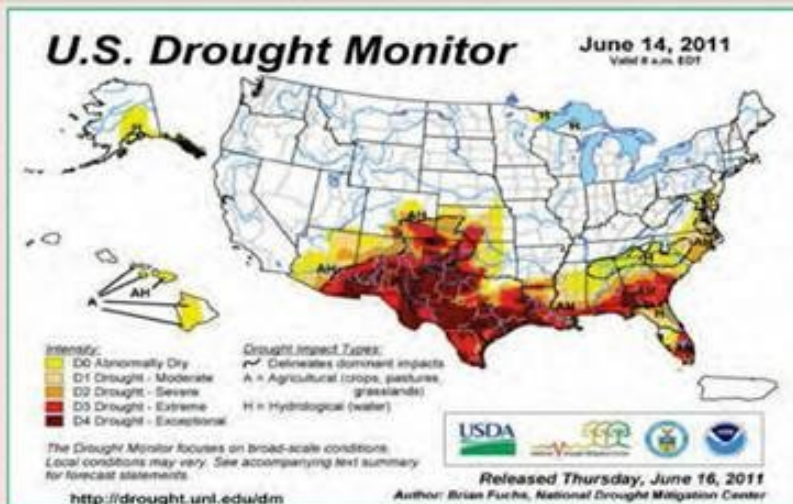
Brian Fuchs,

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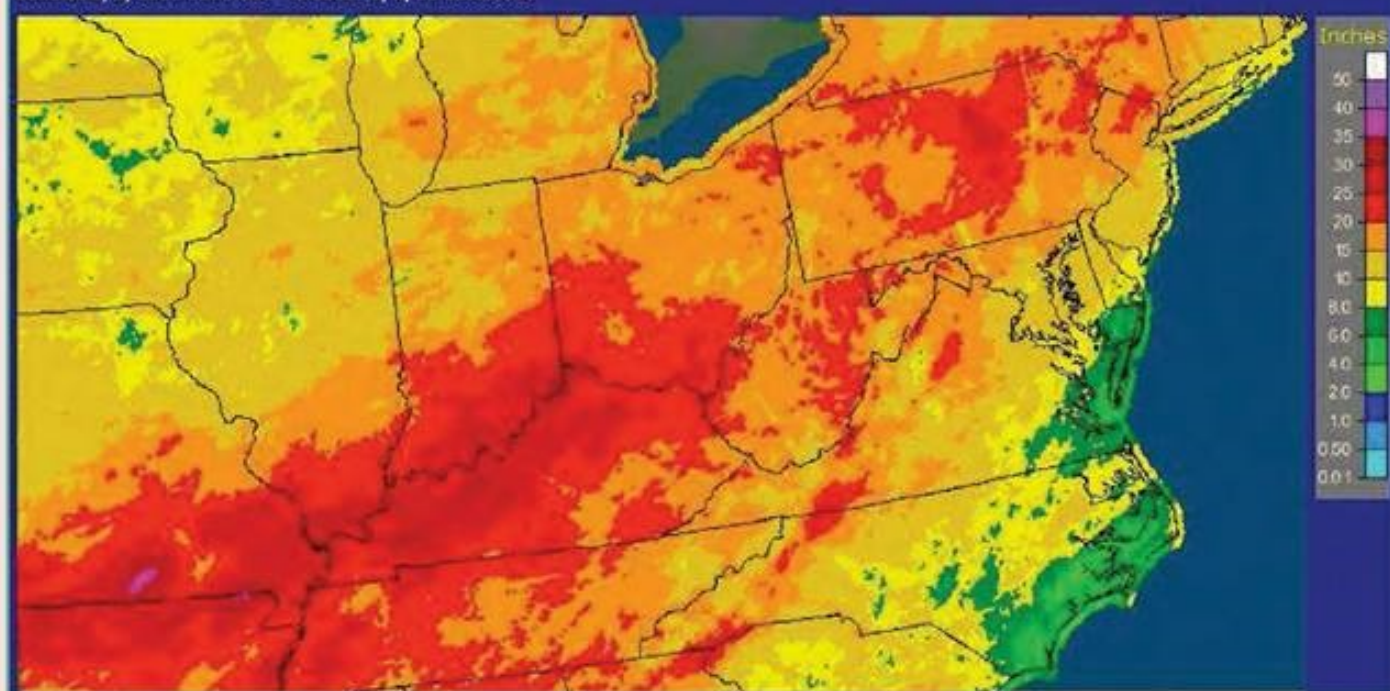
April Showers Bring May Flowers... And More Showers (Continued From Page 1)

Looking at the larger picture with the U.S. Drought Monitor below, we can see that not all locations across the country have been experiencing the same amount of rainfall that we have. This really shows how variable precipitation can be and how your local daily reports contribute to painting a larger precipitation picture. While we deal with the wet conditions, locations across the south-southwest are dealing with dangerous widespread wildfires. This Spring has had a variety of weather including everything from snow, to sweltering heat, and to flooding rains.



Pictured above left is CoCoRaHS observer OH-CN-6s gauge in the March snow. The above right picture depicts locations of drought as of June 14, 2011. Pictured below is the River Forecast Center's 90-Day Observed Precipitation covering the Spring time-frame.

Ohio RFC Wilmington, OH: Current 90-Day Observed Precipitation
 Valid at 6/2/2011 1200 UTC - Created 6/2/11 23:05 UTC





The pictures to the left were taken in the Cincinnati, Ohio area on March 13, 2011 near the time when the Ohio River was cresting at 55.89 feet. This is just below the moderate flood stage of 56 feet.

Major Flood Stage:	65 feet
Moderate Flood Stage:	56 feet
Flood Stage:	52 feet
Action Stage:	40 feet

The picture below was taken on March 14, 2011. This picture is of Ohio River backwater flooding on White Oak Creek. The water is covering State Route 221, north of Higginsport.



Spring 2011 Honor Roll

From March 1, 2011 through May 31, 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-AL-5
OH-AT-1
OH-AT-2
OH-AT-5
OH-AT-12
OH-BT-1

OH-CK-1
OH-CB-2
OH-CC-1
OH-CY-4
OH-DR-1
OH-FR-1

OH-FR-2
OH-FR-8
OH-GG-4
OH-HM-5
OH-HR-2
OH-LR-6

OH-MD-2
OH-MM-1
OH-PT-8
OH-PT-12
OH-PB-1
OH-SD-3

OH-SC-4
OH-SN-3
OH-SH-4
OH-SM-4
OH-SM-5
OH-WL-5

500 Club!

Congratulations to our newest 500 Club members! These observers have submitted at least 500 precipitation reports since becoming a CoCoRaHS observer. We look forward to adding onto this list with the next newsletter. We are now up to 79 people in the 500 Club! Way to go!



OH-AB-4
OH-AT-9
OH-PT-12
OH-PT-7
OH-PT-9
OH-SM-10
OH-SN-2
OH-VN-1

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/dml>



Interested in Learning More About the Weather?

By: Ted Jacobson, Athens County Coordinator

The fact that you are a valued Ohio CoCoRaHS observer certainly demonstrates your interest in precipitation and hydrology. You may be interested in furthering your knowledge and understanding of this interesting and timely science. You can do so through the MetEd website which is maintained by the COMET Program and is part of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research's (UCARs) Community Programs (UCP). This site offers dozens of free, self-paced online instructional modules for the beginner weather observer all the way through to the advanced professional hydrologist. The website, with the wide range of modules, provides a better understanding of all aspects of the water cycle including evaporation, precipitation, flash floods, river ice, snowmelt, runoff, and even the science of rain gauges. You will also find modules sharing lessons learned from past events. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.meted.ucar.edu/>

Question For Your Coordinator?

Are you unsure about how to report part of your observation? Weather is not always straight forward and if you have a question about how to report something or about your precipitation value, please feel free to contact either your county, regional, or state coordinator. Contact information can be found on the left hand of the Ohio CoCoRaHS website under state coordinators. Remember if you take a trip, you can still report the precipitation in your gauge when you return by utilizing the multi-day precipitation form.