NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #1 to join:

- ➔ Your reports are **used by meteorologists at the National Weather Service every single day.**
- ➔ CoCoRaHS observations help us:
  - ◆ Verify forecasts
  - ◆ Calibrate radar rainfall estimates
  - ◆ Forecast and warn for flash flooding and river flooding
  - ◆ Understand local effects, such as those from terrain and lakes
  - ◆ And MUCH MORE!

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

Image courtesy Dave Johnson; MN-SL-18

CoCoRaHS Observers:

- Must use standard rain gauge equipment (~$45)
- Report daily (ideally)
- Can be ANYONE!

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #2 to join:

➔ Your reports are **used by hydrologists!**

- Hydrologists predict streamflows, river levels, reservoir volumes, water supplies, and flood potential.
- **CoCoRaHS rain and snow observations are extremely valuable** because observers report daily and use standard, NWS-accepted equipment.
- Your observations with standard equipment are more accurate than many automated weather stations!

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

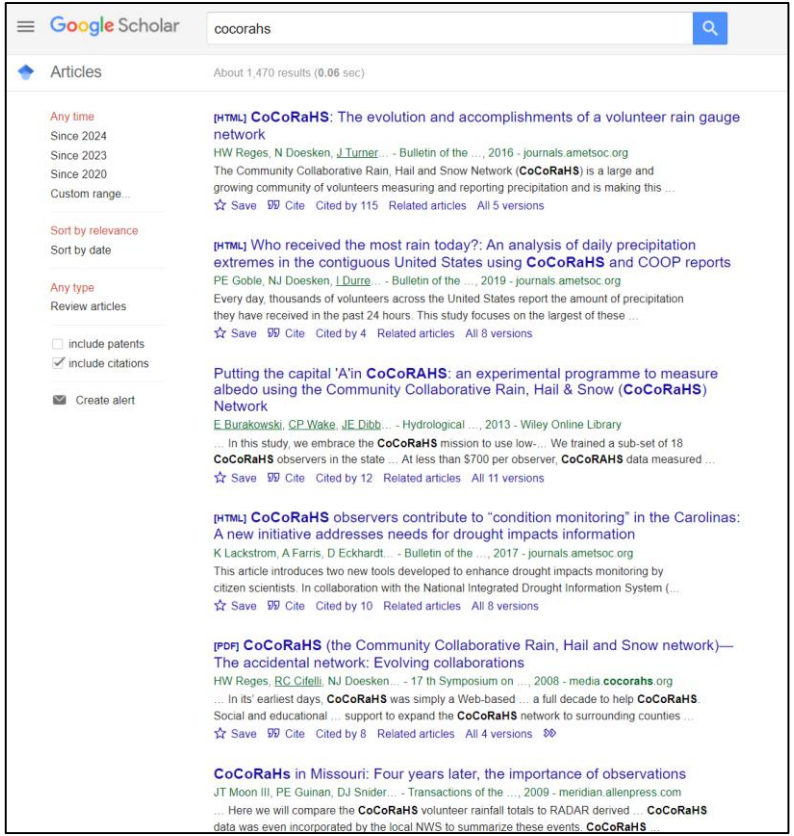
Photo courtesy of Jason Jensen, DNR Conservation Pilot

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #3 to join:

- ➔ Your observations are **used by researchers!**
- ➔ Examples of research using CoCoRaHS data:
  - ◆ Precipitation observations can be used to understand and predict disease spread in humans, animals, and plants.
  - ◆ Mosquito control operations use CoCoRaHS to track where and when mosquitoes will hatch.
  - ◆ Some stations have been recording for long enough to be a part of climate change research.



NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #4 to join:

➔ Your reports are **used in the agriculture industry!**

- ◆ Farmers, ranchers, agribusiness, and commodities investors track weather predictions and observations. This influences:
  - Crop deployment (when and what to plant)
  - Crop yield prediction
  - Track/predict disease and insects
  - Soil moisture assessments

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

*Ready to join? Visit **cocorahs.org** for more information and an application!*

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #5 to join:

➔ Your reports are **used by forensic scientists and the insurance industry**

- ◆ CoCoRaHS reports, as official NWS data, may be used to verify storms
- ◆ CoCoRaHS data can be used to:
  - Prevent fraudulent claims
  - Verify hail, heavy rain/snow, or flooding
  - Provide meteorological reconstruction of past weather events for litigation purposes, especially from remarks section of daily reports.

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

Image courtesy Tessa Levens, WI-BY-29

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #6 to join:

➔ Your reports are **used by engineers who design homes, offices, roads, and more!**

- Roof drains, slopes, and gutter designs are based on rainfall and snowfall data.
- More reports help ensure the infrastructure in our communities are made to withstand the stress of our weather.
- This data is especially important for designing parking lots, culverts, storm seward, drainage areas, bridges, etc.

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

Photo courtesy of Jason Jensen, DNR Conservation Pilot

*Ready to join? Visit **cocorahs.org** for more information and an application!*

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #7 to join:

➔ You'll **provide valuable weather information for your community!**

- Across the mid Mississippi and lower Ohio Valleys, other accurate precipitation data is far spread out and does not capture all local variations in weather.
- A higher density observation network provides a clearer picture of what happened!
- This provides your local community with high-quality local data!

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

CoCoRaHS rainfall observations on September 3, 2022 in Owensboro, KY shows the drastic range in amounts from one side of town to the other.

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

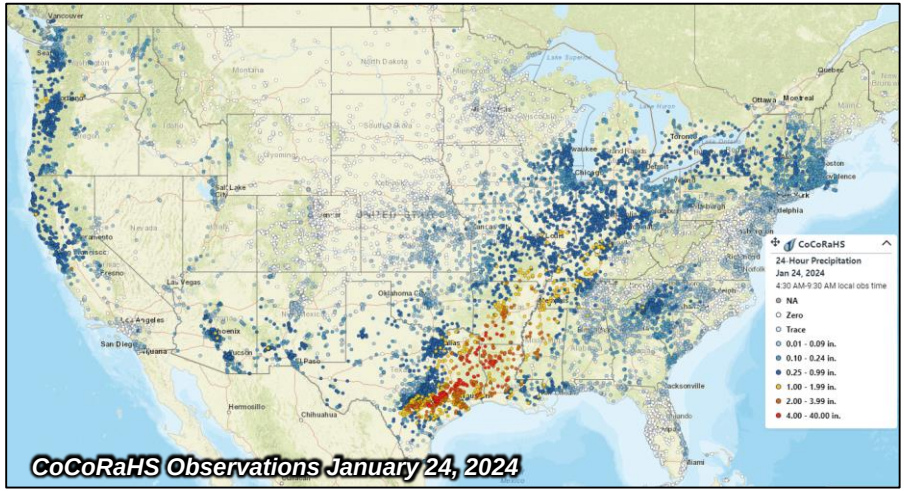
Reason #8 to join:

➔ You're joining **a massive network of volunteers**!

- *There are currently over 20,000 active observers!*
- CoCoRaHS was founded in 1998 at Colorado State University after devastating flash flooding showed the need for high-density, high-quality observations.
- Sponsored by NOAA and the National Science Foundation.

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.



CoCoRaHS Observations January 24, 2024

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #9 to join:

➔ Taking daily weather observations is **a great way to teach kids science!**

- ◆ Kids of all ages learn about their environment, how to read a scientific instrument, do data entry, and then can use their own data to do scientific analysis!
- ◆ CoCoRaHS has lesson plans available for teachers to involve the program into their curriculum!
  - Classrooms can submit multi-day reports on Monday to cover weekend precipitation

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

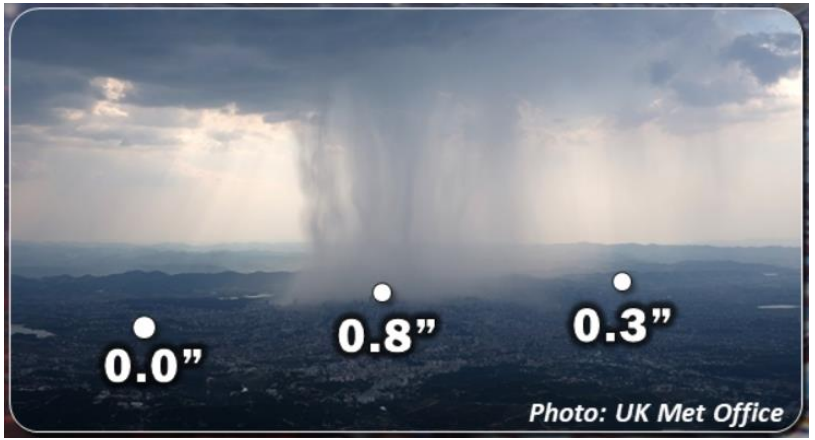
Reason #10 to join:

➔ Your reports **provide pin-point accuracy we can't find anywhere else**!

- ◆ Showers and thunderstorms produce high variable rainfall!
- ◆ While our radar can estimate rainfall, your reports provide "ground truth"!
- ◆ Having this information can lead to better warnings and forecasts!

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.



NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #11 to join:

➔ Your reports **are official National Weather Service data!**

- We'll use your reports for official "local storm reports" - which are archived in **the official weather record**.
- Reports will be shared on our website and with the media - you might just see your report on TV!

Storm Reports

```
Preliminary Local Storm Report...Summary
National Weather Service Paducah KY
404 PM CDT Thu Jul 20 2023

..TIME...   ...EVENT...      ...CITY LOCATION...     ...LAT.LON...
..DATE...   ....MAG....      ..COUNTY LOCATION..ST.. ...SOURCE....
            ..REMARKS..

0900 AM     Rain             6 ENE Hazel             36.54N 88.22W
07/20/2023  M6.76 inch       Calloway           KY   Mesonet

            Mesonet station FW3304 New Concord KY 2 day
            rainfall total.

0845 AM     Rain             6 ENE Hazel             36.54N 88.22W
07/20/2023  M6.86 inch       Calloway           KY   Mesonet

            Mesonet station FW3304 New Concord KY 2 day
            rainfall total.

0840 AM     Rain             1 W Carbondale          37.72N 89.23W
07/20/2023  M5.40 inch       Jackson            IL   Cocorahs

            Cocorahs station IL-JK-31 Carbondale 0.7 W 2
            day rainfall total.

0808 AM     Rain             5 ESE Simpson           37.44N 88.67W
07/20/2023  M5.83 inch       Pope               IL   Mesonet

            Mesonet station DSFI2 Dixon Springs IL 2 day
            rainfall total.

0714 AM     Rain             1 SSE Bandana           37.13N 88.94W
07/20/2023  M9.51 inch       Ballard            KY   Cocorahs

            Cocorahs station KY-BA-3 Kevil KY 4.6 NW 2
            day rainfall total.

0700 AM     Rain             1 SSE Cobden            37.52N 89.25W
07/20/2023  M5.04 inch       Union              IL   Cocorahs

            Cocorahs station IL-UN-6 Cobden IL 0.8 SSE 2
            day rainfall total.
```

NWS Looking for More Volunteer Observers

Join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) Today!

Reason #12 to join:

➔ **It's easy and fun!**

- Once the equipment (rain gauge) is installed, checking it daily takes just a few minutes.
- Tracking your backyard weather helps you better understand how the weather in your location varies from other places.
- There is a new Data Explorer to use to interrogate and interact with anyone's station

What is CoCoRaHS?

CoCoRaHS, or the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, is a grassroots network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation.