What is CoCoRaHS?
CoCoRaHS is a non-profit, volunteer organization located in all 50 states.

Over 15,000 observers take daily measurements of precipitation in their own backyards using simple measurement tools.
Our volunteers report their daily observations on our interactive Web site: www.cocorahs.org
### Precipitation Report Form

**Station Number**: CO-LR-610  
**Station Name**: Fort Collins 3.5 SW

* Denotes Required Field

- **Observation Date**: 10/20/2010
- **Observation Time**: 7:00 AM

- **Rain and Melted Snow** to the nearest hundredth inch that has fallen in the gauge during the past 24 hours: 0.78
- **Report was taken at registered location?** Yes

**Observation Notes**: (This will be available to the public)

> Early morning steady rain. Gusty winds with occasional lightning to the Northwest. Temperatures holding steady overnight.

**New Snowfall**

| NA  | Accumulation of new snow in inches to the nearest *tenth* |
| NA  | Melted value from core to the nearest *hundredth* |

**Total Snow and Ice on Ground at Observation Time**

| NA  | Depth of total snow and ice (new and old) in inches to the nearest *half inch* |
| NA  | Melted value from core to the nearest *hundredth* |
Volunteer’s observations are immediately available in map and table form for the public to view.
Severe Thunderstorm over Fort Collins, Colorado
Monday, July 20, 2009
Can CoCoRaHS Data Be Exported?

CoCoRaHS data can be exported in the following forms:

- .csv
- .xml
- .json
- .shef

You can customize the data by: reports, date, state, county, status, etc.

Contact our office for more info on importing our data.
Since we last met in October 2009

- We’ve added an additional 2,000 volunteer observers
- Are now operating in all 50 states!
- Have been awarded grants from NSF and NOAA/OED
- Have become the largest source of daily precipitation measurements in the United States
Even with over 15,000 observers there still are many gaps to fill

15,500+ as of April 2011
Without CoCoRaHS data

“With CoCoRaHS it’s like increasing the number of pixels on your digital camera.

You get a much clearer picture of where precipitation did and did not fall!”
What about CoCoRaHS & drought?
We emphasize on reporting when it hasn’t rained.

Zero is better than nothing! Remember to report 0.00”.

It’s important to report your observation to CoCoRaHS even when it hasn’t rained. Please report those zeros to help us out.

Message of the Day:

ZERO IS BETTER THAN NOTHING

Thanks for participating in CoCoRaHS and for entering your precipitation report today.

We realize that it takes time to enter your data each day. It may be more interesting to measure and report precipitation when there is something in your gauge. But keep in mind that it is just as important to know when and where it DIDN’T rain or snow (Yes, that season is coming soon) than to know were it DID. We even care about trace (T) amounts. Your reports of 0.00” for dry days are greatly appreciated.

If you don’t have time to enter each day, we have a feature entry report that makes it easy to enter zeros. Feel free to use the “Monthly Zeros” report. This is also a quick way to view your precipitation reports one month at a time.
Phoenix on a wet day
Phoenix on a dry day
March 12, 2011

Approximately 7,500 CoCoRaHS observations reported.

Of these entries, 6,500 observers reported zero.
Our daily reports averaging around 8,000 nationwide.
Improved Drought Awareness

A collaborative effort between CoCoRaHS and NDMC
Training in Drought Awareness

“On-line training on how to report how drought is effecting your community”
Enter the approximate date when the impacts you are observing were first noted. If the impacts are ongoing leave the end date blank.

Drought Impact Report Form

Station Number: CO-LR-610
Station Name: Fort Collins 3.5 SW

The significance of drought is tied directly to the impacts that it causes. Identifying and documenting impacts as they first appear and as they continue is essential for comprehensive drought monitoring. Please refer to the CoCoRaHS training slide show for reporting drought impacts.

* indicates required field

Duration
Drought is a gradual, slow-moving phenomenon. The start date is an approximation. End dates are not required.

Start Date
2/10/2010

End Date
Leave end date blank if impact is still ongoing.
Observers are reporting and letting us know where drought is lurking and effecting their communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drought Impact Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Station Number:</strong> TX-BND-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Station Name:</strong> Bandera 3.9 E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Start Date:</strong> 12/10/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>End Date:</strong> 12/10/2010 7:31 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Submitted:</strong> 12/10/2010 7:31 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong> Have curtailed outside burning. Native plants are suffering, large and small wildlife are attracted to any available water source, smaller ponds and creeks are drying up, level of Medina river (about 1/2 mile from property) is noticeably dropping. Local roads are deep in dust.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drought Impact Categories:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire : $0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plants and Wildlife : $0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future Efforts . . . what lies ahead?
Additional **20-30,000** new volunteers

Expand our volunteer base to new unreached audiences through mobile device technology, social networking and targeted recruiting efforts.

**Enhanced training** through video and webinars to improve the connection between scientists and volunteers.
Addition of Evapotranspiration to our suite of measurements to improve water balance monitoring we could help improve mesoscale and regional scale modeling, as well as help “ground truth” satellite measurements.

Pilot begins in Colorado this summer.
**Improved QC**

**QC Technician QC ticketing pilot project**

**QC tip of the week**

Over 200 sets of eyes – CoCoRaHS State & Regional Coordinators
WERA 1012:
"Managing and Utilizing Precipitation Observations from Volunteer Networks"
Annual Conference

Precip. Conference
May 23-25, 2011 - Estes Park, CO
What’s next . . .

“Hey, there might be water on the moon!”