

# **Southern New England**

# **Newsletter August 2015**

July is a month for thunderstorms and the downpours they bring. They occurred in our area on the first and last days of this month and several times in between. Your measuring and reporting efforts helps map the highly variable nature of these rain dumping storms. We had stations that reported every day with some totaling more than 6” and other stations totaling less than 2” for July 2015.

If you consider yourself new to CoCoRaHS, welcome to the program! There is so much to learn and experience.

## **Significant Weather**

A line of thunderstorms approach your area. The skies darken and it begins to rain heavily with over 1” of rain falling in less than 1 hour. Login to your CoCoRaHS account, fill out and submit a [Significant Weather](#) report, and a few minutes later, the television and cell phone start alerting with Flash Flood Warnings. Coincidence? Maybe. Maybe others reported to the Weather Service also. Maybe that one report made the difference, verified the storm that was on weather radar, convinced the forecaster on duty, and issued the Flash Flood Warning to protect life and property.

Your Significant Weather reports go directly to your National Weather Service Forecast office. If you experience significant weather at your station, make note of the time of day when it starts and stops. Above all,

please remember, your safety comes first. Measure and report when it is safe to do so, and let your Forecast Office act upon your report.

When you login to your CoCoRaHS account, appearing under “Enter My New Reports”, Significant Weather is listed on the left side.

For our area, a guideline to use for submitting a Significant Weather report on the CoCoRaHS site: More than 1”of rainfall in 1 hour or less.

Some of you would be happier to have more than 1” of rainfall in a week, but someday, a significant event may occur to you, and your report may be helpful to someone else.

## **Summary and Detail for July 2015**

More rain fell in northern and western areas. Coastal Massachusetts area received the least.

From the National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Sites for July

<b>Station ID</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>July 2015 Precip</b>	<b>Departure from normal</b>
PSF	Pittsfield MA	5.00 "	0.75 "
BDR	Bridgeport CT	2.67 "	-0.79 "
BDL	Hartford CT	3.08 "	-1.10 "
ORH	Worcester MA	2.86 "	-1.37 "
PVD	Providence RI	2.34 "	-0.95 "
BOS	Boston MA	2.09 "	-1.34 "

From your reports for July 2015

Observers	153
Reports	3598
Comments	436
Multi-Day Reports	70
Highest Daily Report	3.85" from RI-BR-4 reported July 16

Of the 153 stations reporting, over 45 stations submitted reports for all 31 days. Others had completed their monthly reports with Multi-Day Accumulation. Thank you all for that consideration.

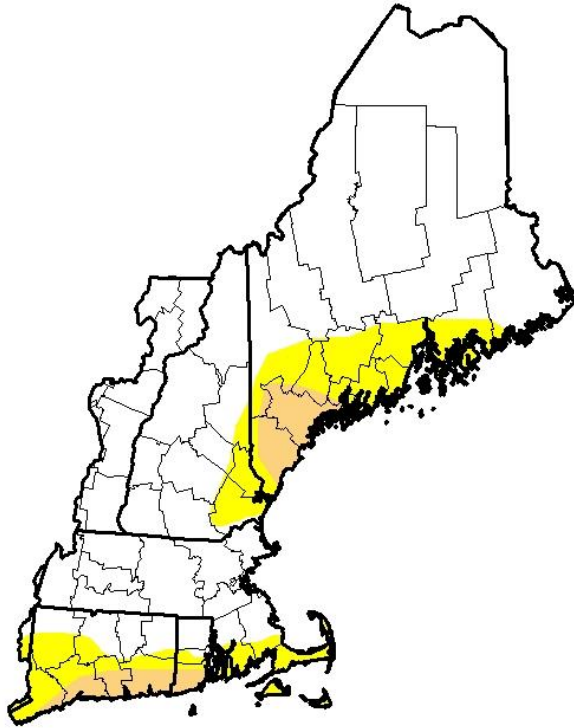
Easily, this list could have been over 70 stations long with representative monthly totals, so the list below was selected at random.

Our three states separate the region north to south. With the use of counties, this table starts in western Berkshire Hills and ends with the Cape and the Islands.

<b>Station</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>July 2015 Precip</b>	<b>County &amp; State</b>
MA-BE-11	Great Barrington 3.0 N	3.90"	Berkshire MA
CT-FR-9	Brookfield 3.3 SSE	7.30"	Fairfield CT
CT-NH-15	Seymour 3.6 SW	3.25"	New Haven CT
MA-FR-10	Conway 0.9 SW	4.26"	Franklin MA
MA-FR-11	Shelburne 2.2 NNE	3.90"	Franklin MA
MA-HS-8	Williamsburg 1.2 WSW	7.82"	Hampshire MA
CT-HR-8	North Granby 1.3 ENE	3.71"	Hartford CT
CT-HR-9	West Hartford 2.7 NNW	4.23"	Hartford CT
CT-MD-5	Westbrook Center 1.1 N	1.88"	Middlesex CT
MA-WR-28	Berlin 1.3 WSW	3.13"	Worcester MA
CT-WN-8	Moosup 1.7 NE	2.41"	Windham CT
RI-PR-33	Greenville 0.7 NNW	3.21"	Providence RI
RI-PR-20	West Glocester 3.4 SE	4.08"	Providence RI
RI-WS-1	Hope Valley 3.7 S	2.47"	Washington RI
MA-MD-44	Medford 1.2 W	1.75"	Middlesex MA
MA-ES-1	Salisbury 3.7 NW	2.08"	Essex MA
MA-ES-19	West Newbury 1.8 SSE	2.70"	Essex MA
MA-NF-1	Norwood 1.3 NW	2.89"	Norfolk MA
MA-NF-5	Weymouth 0.5 NW	3.42"	Norfolk MA
MA-SF-2	Winthrop 0.2 N	2.04"	Suffolk MA
MA-PL-5	Kingston 3.3 WNW	3.47"	Plymouth MA
MA-PL-17	Plympton 0.9 NNE	2.26"	Plymouth MA
MA-BA-11	East Falmouth 1.4 ESE	2.52"	Barnstable MA
MA-BA-30	Eastham 0.6 SW	4.17"	Barnstable MA
MA-BA-12	Orleans 1.1 E	3.95"	Barnstable MA
MA-BA-1	Yarmouth 2.3 SSE	2.83"	Barnstable MA
MA-DK-5	West Tisbury 2.9 N	1.24"	Dukes MA

**U.S. Drought Monitor**  
**New England Watershed**

**July 28, 2015**  
 (Released Thursday, Jul. 30, 2015)  
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	78.40	21.60	5.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>7/21/2015</i>	78.40	21.60	5.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>4/28/2015</i>	50.28	49.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>1/20/2014</i>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>9/30/2014</i>	44.42	55.58	8.51	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>7/29/2014</i>	88.83	11.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

*Intensity:*

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

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

## **Multi-Day Accumulation Reports**

A great aspect of CoCoRaHS is being able to take days and weeks away from measuring and reporting. 70 Multi-Day Accumulation reports were received for July in our Southern New England area. It is great that so many of you fill them out. Keep it up! After this past winter, we all need and deserve a break. When you return, fill out the [Multi-Day Accumulation](#) report to cover the time away and continue with your daily reports from there.

## **Hurricane Season**

Although the Hurricane Season officially began on June 1, as we get into August, our attention in Southern New England should turn to the tropics. The climax of the Hurricane Season occurs around Labor Day weekend in early September, but we have seen tropical systems directly affect our area before and after Labor Day weekend.

Be alert and look at the information the National Hurricane Center (NHC) publishes. NHC monitors and forecasts for two sides of the US: The Atlantic/Caribbean/Gulf of Mexico and the Eastern Pacific.

As we see coverage of these tropical systems in the weeks and months to come, pay attention to these two key parts: The Rock and The Stream. The Rock (the size and intensity of the storm) and The Stream (the speed and direction of the storm).

Hurricane Preparedness: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/>

Web site: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

Mobile Phones: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/mobile>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSNHC>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NWSNHC>

Tropical Cyclone names for the Atlantic  
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames.shtml>

NOAA is marking 10 years since the destructive set of hurricanes that affected the Gulf Coast, with names of Katrina, Rita, and Wilma, all from 2005. Many details and documents included here.

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/advisories/080415-media-resources-10-years-later-2005-hurricane-season.html>

## **Water Year Summaries**

The Water Year ends on September 30, and begin new on October 1. In early October, CoCoRaHS issues [Water Year Summaries](#) of the data

collected by state and station from the prior 12 months. These summaries are a fantastic way to experience and learn more about the variable nature of precipitation within the CoCoRaHS project. It is a “Thank You” card full of data from your station. From Southern New England, we can all moan and groan over the snowfall and snow depth reports from this past winter.

If you are new to CoCoRaHS or new to seeing these summaries, you can find them under the CoCoRaHS site, click on “View Data”, and under “Summary Reports” are the Water Year Summaries.

Make it a new Water Year Resolution to make your station data as complete as you possibly can for the start of the upcoming Water Year beginning on October 1. Strive for 365! Strive to make as many reports as possible within the 365 days in the year. Strive to make over 300 reports and Multi-Day reports to fill in the remainder. Comments on your Daily Precipitation Report go the Water Year Summary, so keep that in mind as you make your daily report.

## **Wrap up**

Enjoy this month of August, this last month of the meteorological summer season. Thank you for all that you do for CoCoRaHS, whether in the past, present, and in the days to come.