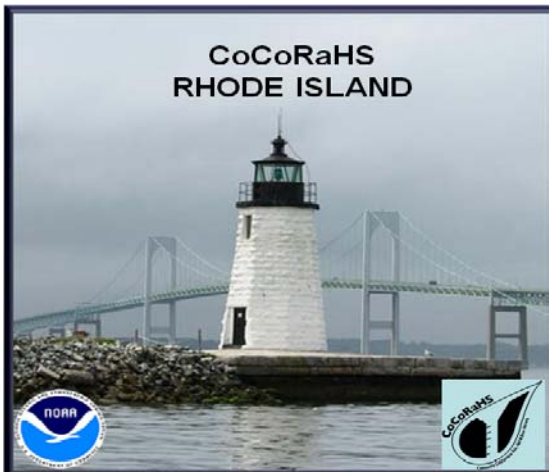
Southern New England CoCoRaHS Newsletter



Summer 2010

Welcome!!!

After a winter that featured average to slightly above average snowfall, spring got off to a VERY wet start in southern New England! Three consecutive rain storms in March resulted in record flooding throughout portions of southern New England, most notably from Rhode Island into central and eastern Massachusetts! Kudos to our CoCoRaHS observers who reported daily precipitation during these storms – the data was extremely useful in river stage forecasts prepared by the NWS Northeast River Forecast Center and helped to save lives and property!!!

CoCoRaHS continues to be an active network in southern New England. As of June, we have a total of 182 observers:

- 60 observers in Connecticut
- 78 observers in Massachusetts
- 44 observers in Rhode Island

Many observers have been reporting daily, even when no precipitation fell. Keep it up! ***Even Trace amounts and "zeroes" are important to CoCoRaHS!***

In this newsletter, we will take a look at the wet month of March and review some summertime weather reporting procedures.

The March 2010 Floods

An unusual jet stream pattern set the stage for 3 consecutive heavy rain episodes in southern New England in mid to late March. Three “cutoff” lows, which are upper level low pressure systems removed from the jet stream, developed over the course of two weeks and tracked south of New England. They tend to slow down weather systems at the surface, which can result in heavy rain.

Record monthly rainfall occurred at Boston (14.87 inches), Blue Hill Observatory (18.81 inches), and Providence (16.34 inches).

March CoCoRaHS rainfall totals are listed below:

Massachusetts March 2010 Rainfall Totals

Station	County	Total
Salisbury 3.7 NW	Essex	22.65
Winchester 0.7 SE	Middlesex	20.10
Jamaica Plain 1.3 NE	Suffolk	19.56
Blue Hill Obs – NWS	**Norfolk**	**18.81 (Monthly Record)**
Groveland 0.5 WSW	Essex	18.33
Dighton 1.1 WSW	Bristol	17.54
Boston 0.5 WSW	Suffolk	17.30
Taunton 2.6 NW	Bristol	17.25
Kingston 3.5 WSW	Plymouth	17.15
Kingston 3.3 WNW	Plymouth	16.81
Norton 1.8 NNE	Bristol	16.47
Norwood 1.3 NW	Norfolk	15.77
Weston 1.6 W	Middlesex	15.31
Marblehead 0.8 SW	Essex	15.23
Rehoboth 2.1 N	Bristol	15.22
Cambridge 0.9 NNW	Middlesex	14.94
Boston – Logan NWS	**Suffolk**	**14.87 (Monthly Record)**
Haverhill 3.6 WNW	Essex	14.84
Attleboro 2.9 E	Bristol	14.69
Franklin 0.7 NE	Norfolk	14.35
Milford 2.3 NNW	Worcester	13.16
Falmouth 3.1 NNW	Barnstable	10.81
Worcester Airport – NWS	**Worcester**	**10.24**
Falmouth 3.0 E	Barnstable	9.86
Yarmouth 2.3 SSE	Barnstable	9.68

Rhode Island March 2010 Rainfall Totals

Station	County	Total
Coventry Center	Kent	21.37
North Kingstown 3 N	Washington	19.53
East Greenwich 2.3 ESE	Kent	18.50
Hope Valley 3.7 S	Washington	17.62
Charlestown 3.9 NNW	Washington	17.36
Kingston 0.5 NW	Washington	17.00
West Glocester 3.4 SE	Providence	16.65
Narragansett 0.5 N	Washington	16.39
Warwick – TF Green NWS	**Kent**	**16.34 (Monthly Record)**
Cranston 4.1 E	Providence	16.13
Middletown 1.1 SW	Newport	15.05
Woonsocket 0.3 W	Providence	13.69
Manville 0.2 NE	Providence	13.69
Cranston 1.9 E	Providence	13.67
Woonsocket 1.3 ESE	Providence	13.61
Little Compton 1.7 NW	Newport	13.17

Connecticut March 2010 Rainfall Totals

Station	County	Total
Oakdale 2.6 WNW	New London	17.64
East Killingly 1.3 SW	Windham	15.19
Winsted 0.7 SE	Litchfield	13.28
North Grosvenor Dale	Windham	13.12
Prospect 1.8 NW	New Haven	12.01
Portland 0.9 S	Middlesex	10.90
Milford 2.9 ESE	New Haven	10.80
Brookfield 2.2 SSE	Fairfield	10.51
Darien 3.6 N	Fairfield	10.42
Bridgeport - NWS	**Fairfield**	**10.19**
Enfield 1.5 SE	Hartford	7.89
Wethersfield 1.2 WSW	Hartford	7.19
Windsor Locks – NWS	**Hartford**	**6.81**
Staffordville 0.4 NNW	Tolland	6.25

Record river levels were set at several locations, including the Pawcatuck River at Westerly RI; Pawtuxet River at Cranston, RI; Sudbury River at Saxonville, MA; and Shawsheen River at Wilmington, MA.

Summertime Reminders

* Remember to measure rainfall to the nearest hundredth (0.01) of an inch and report your daily precipitation total. Trace amounts and zeroes are important too!

* If you observe hail, measure the diameter of the largest hailstones (use a ruler or coin) and send a **Significant Weather Report**. Your report will automatically be forwarded to the nearest National Weather Service office! The same holds true for anything you feel is significant, such as heavy rainfall or flooding.

Next Newsletter

Look for the next Southern New England CoCoRaHS Newsletter in the fall.