

## Citizen Science Program Needs Your Help Observing the Weather!

Do you ever wonder how much rainfall you received from a recent thunderstorm? How about snowfall during a winter storm? If so, an important volunteer weather observing program needs your help! The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow network, or CoCoRaHS, is looking for new volunteers across North Carolina. The grassroots effort is part of a growing national network of home-based and amateur rain spotters with a goal of providing a high density precipitation network that will supplement existing observations.

CoCoRaHS came about as a result of a devastating flash flood that hit Fort Collins, Colorado, in July 1997. A local severe thunderstorm dumped over a foot of rain in several hours while other portions of the city had only modest rainfall. The ensuing flood caught many by surprise and caused \$200 million in damages. CoCoRaHS was born in 1998 with the intent of doing a better job of mapping and reporting intense storms. As more volunteers participated, rain, hail, and snow maps were produced for every storm showing fascinating local patterns that were of great interest to scientists and the public. Recently, drought reporting has also become an important observation within the CoCoRaHS program across the nation. In fact, drought observations from CoCoRaHS are now being included in the National Integrated Drought Information System.

North Carolina became the twenty-first state to establish the CoCoRaHS program in 2007, and by 2010, the CoCoRaHS network had reached all 50 states with nearly ten thousand observations being reported each day. Through CoCoRaHS, thousands of volunteers, young and old, document the size, intensity, duration and patterns of rain, hail, and snow by taking simple measurements in their own backyards.

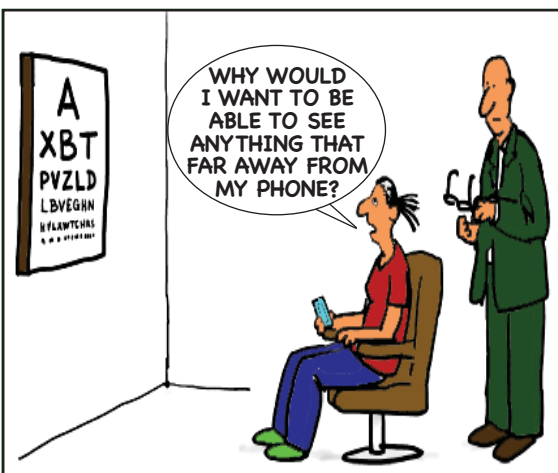
Volunteers may obtain an official rain gauge through the CoCoRaHS website ([www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org)) for about \$30 plus shipping. Besides the need for an official 4 inch plastic rain gauge, volunteers are required to take a simple training module online and use the CoCoRaHS website to submit their reports. Observations are immediately available on maps and reports for the public to view. The process takes only five minutes a day, but the impact to the community is tenfold: By providing high quality, accurate measurements, the observers are able to supplement existing networks and provide useful results to scientists, resource managers, decision makers and other users.

"North Carolina has one of the most complex climates in the U.S.," said Dr. Ryan Boyles, state climatologist and director of the State Climate Office, based at North Carolina State University. "Data gathered from CoCoRaHS volunteers are very important in better understanding local weather and climate patterns."

"An additional benefit of the program to the National Weather Service is the ability to receive timely reports of significant weather (hail, intense rainfall, localized flooding) from CoCoRaHS observers that can assist forecasters in issuing and verifying warnings for severe thunderstorms," says David Glenn, CoCoRaHS State Co-coordinator and meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Newport/Morehead City.

How does one become a CoCoRaHS observer? Go to the CoCoRaHS website above and click on the "Join CoCoRaHS" emblem on the upper right side of the main website. After registering, take the simple online training, order your 4 inch rain gauge and start reporting!

"We are in need of new observers across the entire state. We would like to emphasize rural locations, areas of higher terrain, and areas near the coast," added Glenn. North Carolina CoCoRaHS can also be reached on Facebook and through Twitter.



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In this role you will take calls from manufacturers, vendors, retailers and other customers who want to place orders and/or check on the status of existing orders. This position does not entail sales, telemarketing or collections.

The ideal candidate is one who has worked in a high volume call center taking 75+ calls per day, has excellent customer service and problem solving skills, knows how to operate a computer, is familiar with Word and Excel, enjoys helping others and is a true team player.

Being part-time, this position does not offer benefits.

These two positions are open and available now.

Interviews will be scheduled with candidates who meet our requirements listed above.

Interested and qualified candidates should forward resumes to  
**Mr. Conkling at [cconkling@jjhaines.com](mailto:cconkling@jjhaines.com)**  
or fax it to 410-760-1269

## Woodmen Life Offers Two Scholarships

Wadesboro Woodmen Life Chapter 4, a fraternal life insurance society, is accepting applications for two college scholarships from now until Thursday, May 2. The \$500 scholarships will be awarded to two Class of 2016 graduates in Anson County Schools. The scholarship committee will look at fraternal, patriotic, social and fraternal activities as well as academic achievement and financial need.

Seniors can get a Woodmen Life application form through their guidance counselors. The awards will be presented at the high school awards ceremony.

## Anson County Cattlemen's Association Offers Scholarship

The Anson County Cattlemen's Association is committed to encouraging education and cooperation in the cattle industry and agriculture. The organization feels that encouraging today's youth to pursue educational opportunities in animal science and related fields is important to the future of agriculture and an important endeavor of the association.

The Anson County Cattlemen's Association is offering one \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior furthering his/her education in the field of agriculture. Applications may be found online at [anson.ces.ncsu.edu](http://anson.ces.ncsu.edu), at the Anson County Cooperative Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro, or at the guidance office in each Anson County High School.

Applications are due no later than May 13, 2016, by 5 p.m. They can be mailed or delivered to the Cooperative Extension Office at the above address, with Attention: Anson County Cattlemen's Association Scholarship Committee. Any further inquiries can be directed to Jessica Morgan, Agriculture Agent, at 704-694-2415 or [Jessica\\_morgan@ncsu.edu](mailto:Jessica_morgan@ncsu.edu).

## Pre-Kindergarten Registration Begins Thursday

Pre-Kindergarten Registration will be held this year at the Elementary School in the attendance area where the child lives. Please check the dates and times below for the school your child will be attending. You must register in your residing district.

**Ansonville Elementary School** March 24, 9 to 11 a.m.

**Wadesboro Primary School** March 24, 9 to 11 a.m.

**Lilesville Elementary School** April 8, 9 to 11 a.m.

**Morven Elementary School** April 14, 9 to 11 a.m.

**Peachland-Polkton Elementary School** April 22, 9 to 11 a.m.

To attend Kindergarten your child has to be 5 on or before August 31, 2016. North Carolina Law requires a CERTIFIED birth certificate (hospital/mother's copy birth certificates will not be accepted). Prior to the Pre-kindergarten registration clinics, forms can be picked up at the elementary school or on the Anson County Schools website under the Parent and Student Resources link.

Anson County also requires at least 2 proofs of residence (911 address on Driver's License, address on a bill, etc.) to place the child in the proper attendance area.

**DO NOT FORGET TO BRING:**

1. Certified Birth Certificate for your child
2. Shot Record
3. Social Security Card for the student
4. Health Assessment (if already completed)
5. At least two (2) proofs of residence showing your 911 address

We look forward to seeing you as you register your child for Pre-kindergarten. If you have questions, please call the school in your attendance area and speak to the school nurse.

## ANSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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