

# Become a Rainfall Observer!

Volunteer rainfall observers need to be dedicated and reliable.

## Did you know?

- SEPA currently records rainfall at 383 sites across Scotland, of which 267 are registered with the Met Office, contributing to the national rainfall archive.
- The national rainfall archive, looked after by the Met Office, provides a valuable source of data from across the UK relating to rainfall. This data is used by SEPA, the Met Office and other organisations such as the Ministry of Defence, the Environment Agency, and utility companies for weather and flood forecasting, climatology and water resource management.
- The service that the voluntary rainfall observers provide is invaluable, but we need more people to get involved to help maintain, and expand our network of rainfall observers across the country and continue to collect these vital figures.
- There can never be enough observers to capture the diverse rainfall patterns we experience in Scotland and we would welcome new observers from anywhere in Scotland. In particular, we are looking for observers in Lochaber, Sutherland, Shetland and in the Western Isles where our coverage is particularly sparse.

## Interested? See what to do next...



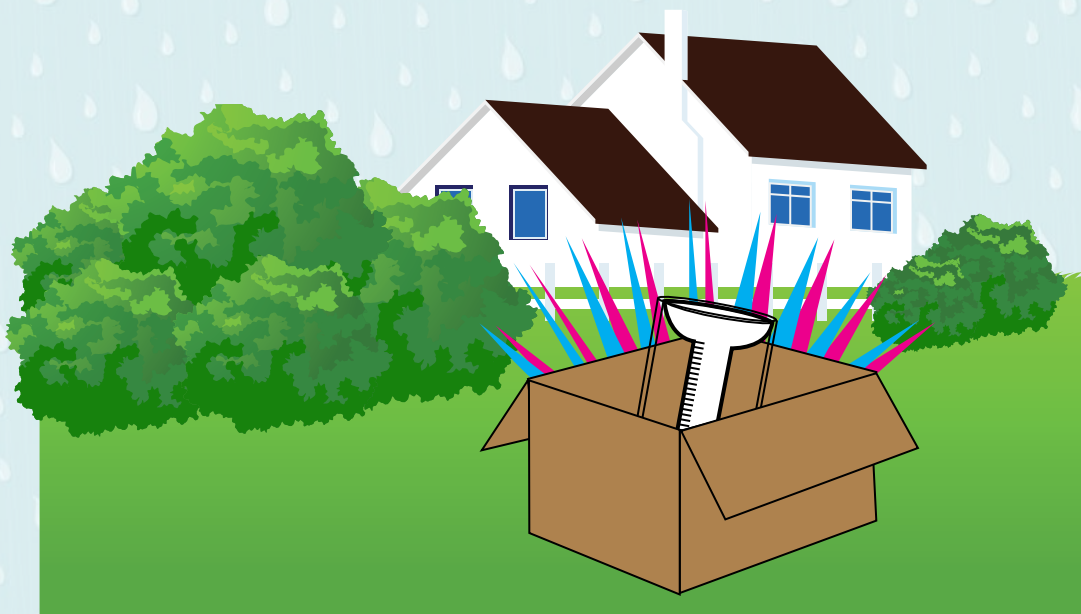
# Step 1

You can volunteer via the SEPA website at [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)



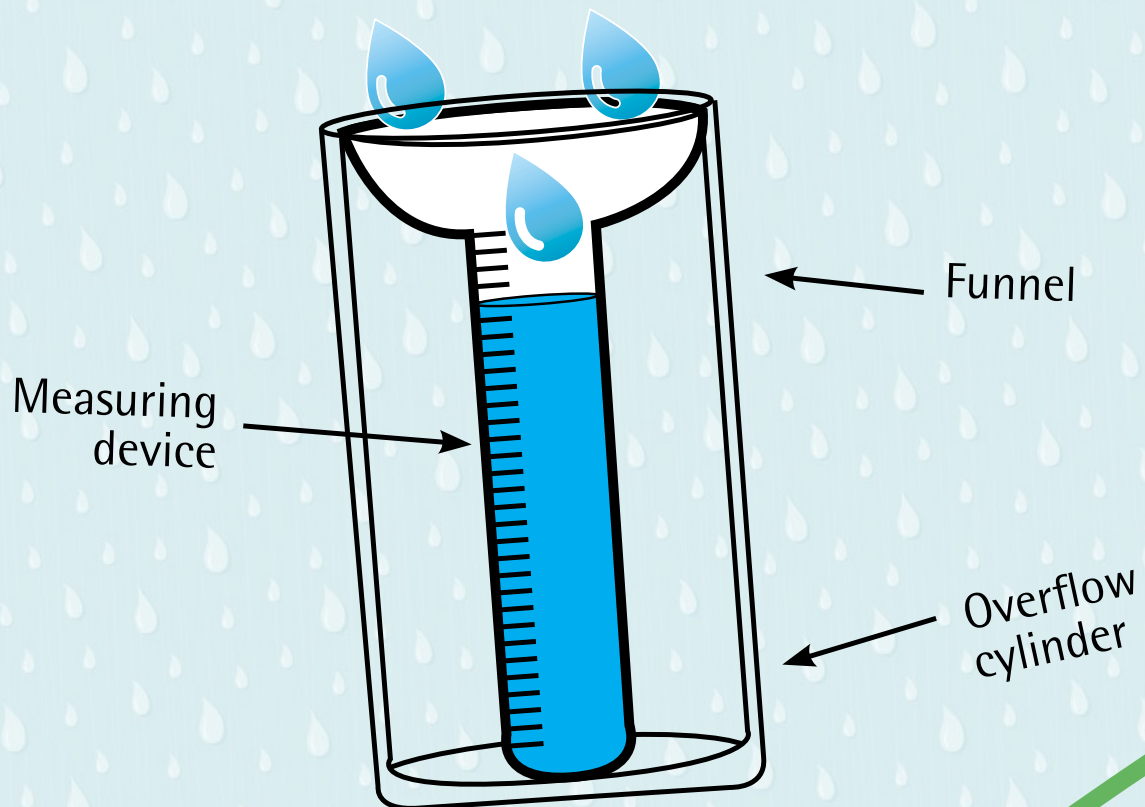
## Step 2

Once you have volunteered, we will then arrange for a site visit, and distribution of the equipment required.



## Step 3

You will be provided with a rainfall storage gauge.



## Step 4

You need to place the rainfall gauge outside in an open area where rainfall can accumulate ie. on an open lawn away from trees.



## Step 5

During periods of absence such as holidays, you should arrange for a 'deputy' to carry out the measurements.

If no deputy is available, an accumulated total can be provided over the period of absence.



## Step 6

You need to record your measurements on the card supplied. Then return the card to SEPA on a monthly basis using pre-paid postage.



# Step 7

Results go to the following for weather and flood forecasting, climatology and water resource management:



- [SEPA](#)



- [The Met Office Rainfall Archive](#)



- [The Ministry of Defence](#)



- [The Environment Agency](#)

