

260-WS-2501 Data Logging Rain Station: Installation Guide

The **260-WS-2501 Data Logging Rain Station** includes several parts, and may be packed in more than one box for shipping. Some items may be packed inside the rain gauge. Carefully lift the large funnel straight up to check inside the gauge.

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| • 260-2501-A Rain Gauge | → | 260-2501-A Rain Gauge User Manual |
| • 260-2103 Rain Logger | → | 260-2103 Rain Logger User Manual |
| • 260-950 Mounting Plate | → | 260-950 Mounting Plate Instruction Sheet |
| • 190-505 3' Tripod | → | 190-5xx Tripod User Manual |
| • 190-300 2' Sensor Mast | | |
| • 195-BHW-Kit Software with 6' USB cable | | Software provided on CDROM* |

Before installing your system, become familiar with the logger and the HOBOWare Software by reading through the Rain Logger User Manual. Install the software on your laptop before you connect to the logger. Connect the USB cable to the logger and practice until you can start and stop the logger, and upload data from it. Simulate rain by tipping the bucket in the rain gauge manually. The Help feature in the software has additional information.

Note: *The logger is shipped in the STOPPED state, and will not collect data until the logger has been "launched" via the HOBOWare software.*

1. Refer to the 260-2501-A User Manual for instructions for siting and maintaining your rain gauge. The exposure of the gauge is important for accurate measurements.
2. Once the site is chosen set up your tripod on level ground or a platform and anchor it according to suggestions in the tripod user manual. Install the 2' sensor mast and tighten the mounting bolts.
3. Install the rain gauge on the mounting plate, then place the assembly on the mast.
4. Mount the logger on the mast using the Velcro strips supplied. (*Note: some users prefer to mount the logger inside the rain gauge. The system can be ordered with the logger pre-installed*)
5. Launch the logger (using a computer running HOBOWare Software) so that it is ready to accept input from the rain gauge. The display should show zero or some number of counts if it has been operated previously.
6. Pour water slowly into the rain gauge and observe that the logger registers each tip of the rain gauge bucket.

The data logger has a large memory and can operate for up to a year on the battery. It is best, however, to visit the site and collect data from the station on a regular schedule to ensure it is operating properly, and to ensure the rain gauge is not clogged with debris.

*The software can be downloaded here: <https://www.onsetcomp.com/hoboware-free-download/>



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The rain gauge has a 10 foot cable terminated by a stereo plug that connects to the logger. This connection is pre-wired inside the logger case.

The logger is attached to the 2' mast, just below the Rain Gauge Mounting Plate. It is held in place with Velcro strips, making it easy to remove the logger for downloading.

The display will be turned on continuously while in operation. The total rain is displayed in a large font and can be viewed without opening the case. Battery and memory status icons are also shown on the display.

The logger is downloaded by connecting a laptop running HOBOWare software. If desired, the rainfall counter can be reset to zero (via HOBOWare) prior to launching the logger.

260-WS-2501 with Logger Mounted on Mast



260-WS-2501 with Logger Mounted Inside the Rain Gauge