

About NCAR and UCAR

NCAR was conceived in the late 1950s by a small group of innovative scientists, most of them university faculty members, to advance the complex field of meteorology, which had proven its value during air operations in World War II. In 1960, NCAR began operations in Boulder, Colorado, as a program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) managed by the nonprofit University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), a consortium of universities. Its mission was to “acquire, construct, establish, own, equip, and operate an institute for atmospheric research and other laboratories and facilities for atmospheric research and for research in related fields.”



The mission of NCAR and UCAR has evolved through the past five decades to address societal needs for atmospheric research. NCAR provides the university science and teaching community with the tools, facilities, and support required to perform innovative research. Scientists from around the world have access to NCAR's resources such as supercomputers, aircraft, and radar that they need to improve our understanding of the atmosphere and the environment. NCAR and UCAR's member university scientists work together on research topics such as air quality, weather processes and storms, climate, and interactions between the Sun and Earth. NCAR scientists also apply research to areas that directly benefit society, like helping make transportation safer and modeling weather and climate change. A sister entity, the UCAR Community Programs, currently supports research and education in ways that complement NCAR.



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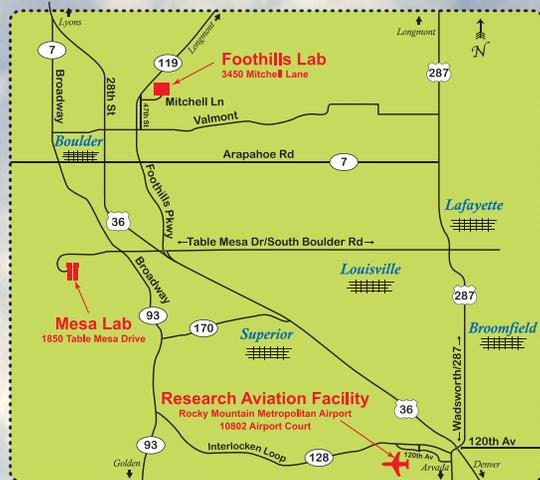


Open House – Open Labs

NCAR and UCAR invite the local community to visit three campuses on Saturday, June 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in conjunction with our 50th anniversary. Come by for a rare firsthand look at the people, instruments, and facilities that drive the atmospheric sciences. Staff will be on hand to explain their work, demonstrate their instruments, show their labs, introduce the NCAR aircraft, and more. The Mesa Lab, Foothills Lab, and Research Aviation Facility will each offer a different experience for visitors.



Use this brochure as your Passport to the Atmospheric Sciences. Go to the welcome center at each Open House–Open Laboratory site to get your stamp for that location. Place the stamps in the circles on these pages to commemorate where you have been.



We are proud to present a zero waste event. Over 90% of the open house materials are reusable, recyclable, or compostable. We encourage visitors to save fuel and reach us via carpool, bike, or bus. For convenient bike and bus route information, visit: www.50th.ucar.edu.  This brochure is printed on 100% recycled stock using soy inks.



UCAR manages NCAR under sponsorship by the National Science Foundation.



The National Center for Atmospheric Research and University Corporation for Atmospheric Research invite you to the
50th Anniversary Open House

Your Passport to the Atmospheric Sciences

Visit Three Locations
Saturday, June 5, 2010
9 am–4 pm

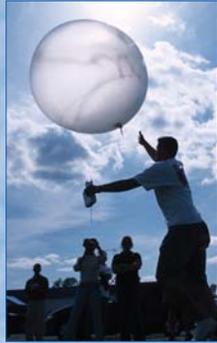


www.50th.ucar.edu

Foothills Laboratory

Hands on the Atmosphere: Instruments, Data and Technology

The Foothills Lab campus in North Boulder has never been open to the public before! Scientists here will demonstrate and explain weather balloon launches, auto emissions testing, weather-detecting instruments used on snow plows and emergency helicopters, and technologies streaming data to



users around the world. Tour the machine shop, watch ice crystals form, learn about smog and aerosols, and catch short presentations by NCAR scientists. UCAR educators will offer fun-filled,



hands-on science exploration activities for kids, families, and teachers.

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Research Aviation Facility

Eyes on the Sky: Airborne Global Research

The Research Aviation Facility at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Broomfield is the staging area for NCAR's airborne scientific research experiments.



Learn about how the new Gulfstream V jet and the C-130 aircraft are equipped with observational tools and computers and deployed for each new field experiment. Scientists, pilots, and engineers will describe past, recent, and upcoming field campaigns exploring the atmosphere or circling the planet to study important questions near and far. Visitors can learn how to track the G-V's flights using Facebook and Google Earth.

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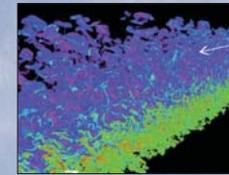


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Mesa Laboratory

Voices of History: NCAR and UCAR through the Decades

At the Mesa Lab, your hosts will dress in the style of each decade as they guide visitors through the past 50 years of atmospheric exploration and partnerships. Interpretive stations will offer storytellers and artifacts showing how atmospheric science has evolved and its importance to society today and in the future. View a new exhibit



in the supercomputing center about the history of NCAR computing and exciting plans for the coming decades. See a model of the COSMIC satellite and learn how scientists interpret the data it streams from space to Earth. Find out how scientists study the Sun and improve their ability to predict solar activity and the space weather it sends our way. Share your questions about climate and global change at the Ask a Scientist booth.

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Best for ages 12 and up

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