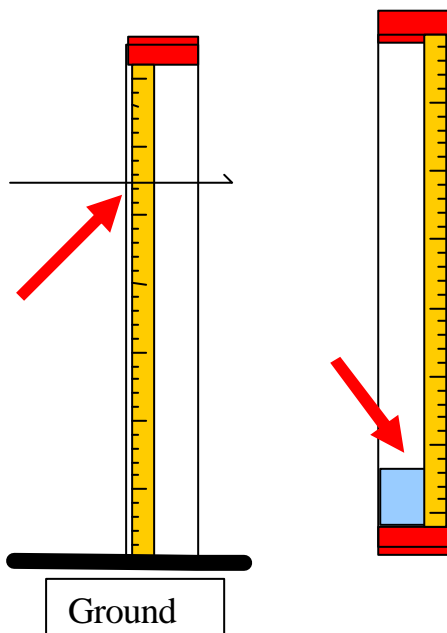
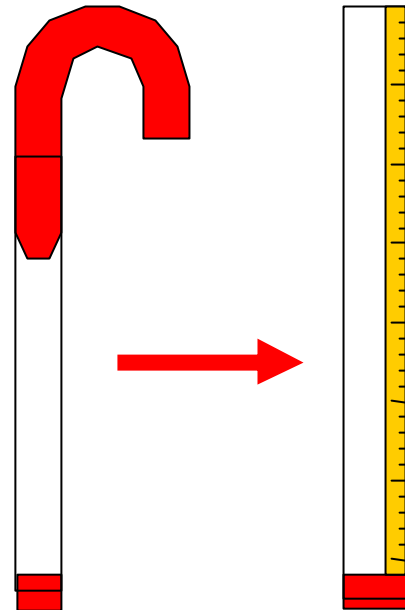


Snow depth and density measurements

Analyzing the viewers of my site I noticed that the snow material was requested much more often than any other. Snow density is the parameter, which you can measure in your own backyard. Do you want to measure snow yourself? No problem. Here is how to make a perfect tool for that.

How to get the tool – the snow density meter?

Do you know the plastic Christmas Cane filled with candy? Yes, the longest one with the cheapest candy. It consists of the transparent plastic cylinder and a handle as a lid (I bought it in Wal-Mart, December 28, for \$1.48: a 52-cm one). I took candies out, put a single strip of the non-transparent, yellow scotch from the top to the bottom, graduated it in double direction by centimeter (from the top to the bottom and from the bottom to the top), and here we are! This is the Snow Density Meter (SDM)! This is the excellent tool for snow investigation and measurements! You can observe snow layers and snow behavior during snow melting; you can measure their average density.



How to measure?

Turn SDM upside down and cut snow by the cylinder: you have a snow steak inside the cylinder. Read the depth of snow using the top-to-bottom graduation. Write it down. Carefully close the orifice of SDM in order to avoid the snow loss (you can use for that an old unused CD) and turn SDM backward: up-side-up. Now put the lid (the cut original handle or another one) and bring SDM inside the house. Leave it to melt (be sure that the lid on!). When snow is totally melted, take the reading of the water level using bottom-to-top graduation. Divide the water depth by the snow one. This is density of snow in g/cm^3 . If you get 0.28, it is 280 kg/m^3 , or 0.28 g/cm^3 .