**SKYWARN**

***A GUIDE FOR REPORTING SEVERE WEATHER***

**Please call the National Weather Service whenever you observe the following**: 

* **Tornadoes or funnel clouds** (be very wary of look-alikes; watch for rotation)
* **Wall clouds**, especially if they are rotating
* **Hail** (Be specific with regard to size; DO NOT report MARBLE size)
* **Winds** (40 mph or greater; specify whether estimated or recorded)  
           -- large branches downed (specify diameter of branch)  
           -- Trees/power lines downed  
           -- Structural damage to buildings (roof, windows, etc.)
* **Rainfall**

         -- 1 inch or greater in an hour (NOT a 1"/hr. rate for 10 minutes)  
         -- 2 inches or greater storm total

* **Flooding**

         -- Streams/Rivers -- also, when nearing bankfull  
         -- Coastal   
         -- Street (when more than the usual poor drainage puddles)

* **Winter Weather**

         -- Precipitation type change (rain to sleet/freezing rain/snow, when the  
             change has "taken hold")  
         -- Thunder, when accompanied by snow  
         -- 1/3" radial ice accretion (from twig outward; not circumference)

* **New Snowfall**  
           -- First 2 inches; every 2-3 inches thereafter  
           -- 1 inch per hour or greater  
           -- If less than 2 inches total, give final total only   
           -- Give final total (don't leave us hanging with a partial report)  
           -- Report any snow/sleet/freezing rain *if not in NWS forecast!*

**PROCEDURES**

1) Call the NWS at the toll-free number given to you.

2) Identify yourself with your Spotter ID # and your name.

3) BRIEFLY describe WHAT was observed; and WHEN & WHERE it was observed.

4) If you cannot reach us and you consider your report to be life-threatening, call your  
     local police or fire department, explain who you are, and ask that they relay the  
     report to the NWS