

Steele County SKYWARN Emergency Operations Center

507-774-7241

Amateur Radio:

Primary Repeater 145.490 MHz (100.0 PLL)

Secondary Repeater 147.105 MHz (100.0 PLL)

WHO YOU ARE: Your name or Amateur Radio call sign.

WHEN DID YOU SEE IT: When the observation was made.

WHERE YOU ARE/WERE: Location of the observation. Sweet Spot Number if known.

WHAT TO REPORT....

Report your observation accurately -- If you are not certain of what you see, provide an accurate description.

Tornadoes	A violently rotating column of air <i>in contact</i> with the ground. Tornadoes and rain shafts can look alike. Look for rotation and upward motion. Also, look for other visual clues, such as the wall cloud, overshooting tops, storm rotation, etc.		
Funnel Clouds	A violently rotating column of air <i>not reaching</i> the ground. Be observant -- sometimes there is no visible connection between the cloud and the ground, but the tornado is causing debris to be blown about at the surface.		
Rotating Wall Clouds	A lowering of the cloud base below the storm tower. Take time to determine if the wall cloud is rotating.		
Large Hail (over 1/2")	Use a measurement rather than a description:		
	1/4" is pea size. 1/2" is a plain M&M.	3/4" is a penny. 1" is a quarter.	1-3/4" is a golf ball. 2-3/4" is a baseball.
Damaging Winds (over 40 mph)	When reporting wind speeds or gusts, tell whether they are measured or estimated -- 25 - 30 mph: large branches moving; whistling heard in wires. 30 - 40 mph: whole trees moving; inconvenience in walking against wind. 40 - 45 mph: breaks twigs and small branches; impedes walking. 45 - 55 mph: larger branches and weak limbs may break; slight structural damage. 55 - 65 mph: moderate structural and tree damage. over 65 mph: heavy to severe structural and tree damage.		
Heavy Rains	Rain is accumulating at a rate of 1 inch per hour or higher (i.e. 0.25 inch within 15 minutes)		
Flooding	Local roads or low water crossings are dangerously flooded. Rivers, creek, and streams overflowing their banks.		
Other	Significant structural damage. Utility lines down and crossing the road. Personal injuries.		

SAFETY FIRST!!

Be sure you are not in the oncoming path.
Know your escape route.
Identify an emergency cover.
Do not cross down wires! Or moving water!

