

National Weather Service Indianapolis



Working Together to Save Lives

Each year local National Weather Service offices issue over 500 severe thunderstorm, tornado, and flash flood warnings. However, if these warnings are not heard or people don't know the appropriate actions to take, the warnings are useless. The National Weather Service working together with the media, state and county public officials, and emergency response organizations, are committed to protecting life and property.

The following is a summary of the role each partner plays.

- **National Weather Service**
 - Interprets weather information and issues official watches and warnings.
 - Disseminates warnings through NOAA Weather Radio, the media and emergency management.
 - Collects and disseminates storm spotter reports.
 - Provides weather safety training to schools, businesses, and the public.

- **News Media**
 - Protect the public by broadcasting National Weather Service warnings.
 - Provide visual confirmation of dangerous weather conditions.
 - Provide important safety messages during the event.
 - Report on recovery efforts and provide the public with information on how to reach for help in recovery.
 - Educate people about severe weather and weather safety by carrying stories or special programs during severe weather preparedness week and during dangerous weather events.

- **State and Local Public Officials and the American Red Cross**
 - Plan for and respond to extreme weather events.
 - Relay National Weather Service warnings through local warning systems.
 - Facilitate recovery efforts after disasters.
 - Promote weather safety by scheduling National Weather Service SKYWARN spotter classes.
 - Work with community leaders, businesses, and schools to ensure appropriate safety plans are in place prior to disasters.