

STORM SPOTTERS

Volunteer storm spotters play a vital role in keeping you safe from the storm! Despite the tremendous advancements in technology, reports of what is actually occurring on the ground play a huge role in assessing the threats from each storm. These accurate and timely reports play a vital role in helping the NWS make critical warning decisions!



The image to the right shows NWS Meteorologist Jennifer Schuller teaching a Skywarn spotter class in Moulton, AL



www.alabamaskywarn.org

HOW TO BECOME A STORM SPOTTER

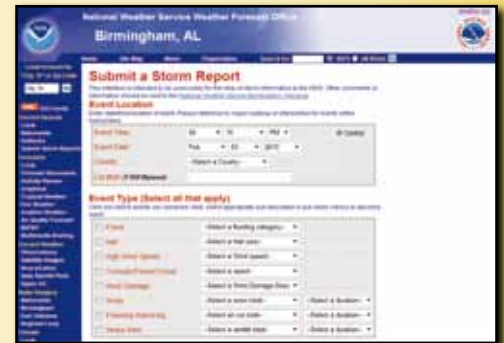
Anyone can become a Skywarn spotter! Training is provided at various times and locations throughout the year, and generally lasts up to 2 hours. Online training is also offered. Contact your local National Weather Service office for information on the next training opportunity near you!

HOW TO REPORT SEVERE WEATHER

There are many ways to report severe weather. Remember, it's important to choose the appropriate method based on the report. For instance, do not post a report of a tornado on Facebook/Twitter. Instead call 911 or your local EMA or NWS office.

- Call your local Emergency Management Office
- Call local law enforcement/911 service
- Call your local National Weather Service Office
- Facebook/Twitter
- Submit it online via one of the following websites:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/StormReport/SubmitReport.php?site=tae>
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/StormReport/SubmitReport.php?site=mob>
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/StormReport/SubmitReport.php?site=bxm>
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/StormReport/SubmitReport.php?site=hun>



Courtesy of Stephan Frank
Sumter County, Apr 27, 2011

Courtesy of Mallory Steelfox
Walker County, Jan 17, 2013

WHAT TO REPORT

Please remember to include the time of the event and a detailed location (i.e. address or intersection).

- Tornado/Funnel Cloud
- Wall Cloud (rotating?)
- Flash Flooding
- Damaging Winds (≥ 60 mph)
- Large Hail (≥ 1 inch)
- Heavy Rainfall
- Small Hail (< 1 inch)
- Strong Winds (< 60 mph)
- Ponding of Water
- Snow Depth
- Ice Accumulations
- Damage (trees/structures)

Remember the 3 W's when reporting: What, When and Where!