



National Weather Service Wilmington SKYWARN Program



Spotter Information & Reporting Procedures

To report severe weather call:

800-697-3901 or (910)-762-8043
877-633-6772 (automated)

Only make your report when you can do so safely!

What to Report:

- Funnel Cloud, Tornado, or Waterspout
- Winds over 40 mph, or wind damage
- Hail of any size
- Flooding (standing or flowing?)
- Weather related injuries or fatalities
- Snow, Ice, or Fog making travel hazardous

When Making a Report:

- **WHO** you are: Amateur Radio Call, name, etc.
- **WHAT** you have seen
- **WHERE** the event is occurring
- **WHEN** the event happened
- **MOVEMENT** of tornado, waterspout, or funnel cloud (if possible)

Estimating Wind Speeds – Beaufort Scale

Estimating Hail Size

Estimating Visibility

Force	Speed	Observations			
5	19-24 mph	Fresh wind, small trees sway	1/4 - 1/2 inch	Pea	<i>Car Odometer Method</i> 1 – Choose target at visibility range 2 – Check odometer 3 – Drive to target, recheck odometer
6	25-31 mph	Large branches sway, wires whistle	3/4 inch	Penny	
7	32-38 mph	Whole trees sway, walking tough	1 inch	Quarter	
8	39-46 mph	Twigs and small branches break off	1 1/4 inch	Half Dollar	
9	47-54 mph	Branches break, minor structural damage	1 1/2 inch	Ping Pong	
			1 3/4 inch	Golf Ball	
10	55-63 mph	Large limbs break, trees uprooted, structural damage	2 inch	Egg/Plum	
			2 1/2 inch	Tennis Ball	
11	64-74 mph	Widespread damage, trees snapped	2 3/4 inch	Baseball	
			3 inch	Orange/Apple	
			4 inch	Grapefruit	

Measuring Flooding

Estimating Rain Intensity

<p>Do not drive into flooded areas!!!</p> <p><i>Flood observations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Is the water up to the wheel cover, base of door, or over the hood on cars? -Is the water over curbs, or into yards? -Are roads closed or impassable? -Is it standing flood water or flowing? 	<p>Light: ≤ 0.1" per hour, individual drops seen</p> <p>Moderate: 0.11 ≤ 0.3" per hour, individual drops not clearly seen, spray visible just above the pavement</p> <p>Heavy: ≥ 0.3" per hour, falling in a torrent, heavy spray seen above the pavement</p>
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NOAA Weather Radio Frequencies

Wilmington, NC – 162.55 MHz ◊ Myrtle Beach, SC – 162.400 MHz ◊ Florence, SC – 162.55 MHz
St. Pauls, NC – 162.475 MHz ◊ Georgetown, SC – 162.500 MHz



SKYWARN Amateur Radio Repeaters

Wilmington, NC	N4ILM	146.820 (-)	Tone 88.5	(Linked to PCRN)
Myrtle Beach, SC	NE4SC	146.655 (-)	Tone 123.0	(Linked to SC 220)
Lumberton, NC	W4LBT	147.045 (+)	No Tone	(Linked to PCRN)
Conway, SC	NE4SC	147.090 (+)	Tone 123.0	
Amateur Radio Station	WX4ILM	National Weather Service Wilmington		

