

Wayne County Emergency Management Agency Amateur Radio ARES/RACES

Skywarn Net Guidelines

Net Frequency:

Primary 146.865 (- 131.8 Hz PL) **Backup:** 146.925 (-141.1 Hz PL)

Weather Conditions: Approaching Severe Storm.....

Inactive or Stand-by

Severe Thunderstorm WATCH.....	Condition	Green
Severe Thunderstorm WARNING.....	Condition	Yellow
Tornado WATCH.....	Condition	Yellow
Tornado WARNING.....	Condition	Red

NOTE: The above guidelines are generally used; however, watches/warnings are normally issued by the NWS for wide areas. Net Control may use their discretion in determining when to activate a net, and determining the level of the net. If local conditions are more severe than those recognized by the NWS, a net may be started in Wayne County at any time, and in any level. It is sometimes an advantage to lower the condition of the net to obtain a wider variety of coverage or to accept more check-ins. Thus, the net status should be consistent with the actual weather conditions for the Wayne County Area. If connected to the NWS (National Weather Service) their requests for weather information should be given Priority, and they should be advised of our activation and any change in net status, in addition to our field reports of weather incidents and/or damage

Check-ins are taken in STAND-BY and condition GREEN ONLY. When in YELLOW or RED, announce the condition of the net frequently, and tell those that did not check in but are available, that they will be given a chance to check in later.

SKYWARN NETS ARE DIRECTED NETS. ONLY CERTIFIED SKYWARN SPOTTERS MAY CHECK IN.

However, PRIORITY or EMERGENCY traffic will be accepted from any licensed station.

Give reports for only the weather conditions requested by net control. If you have nothing to say regarding these conditions, **remain silent**. An exception to this is if you must leave the net. Then, contact net control and request that he/she excuse you. Do not leave the net without reporting to net control.

PRIORITY TRAFFIC: Such events and/or conditions that are obviously a significant threat to life or limb. This means your traffic concerns an immediate safety issue.

EMERGENCY TRAFFIC: This is the highest message possible. It must involve those messages containing absolute danger or death or serious injury if your message is not transmitted immediately.

Always consider the safety of you and your family first!!

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Skywarn Net Preamble Condition **GREEN**

THIS IS (INSERT CALL SIGN HERE) NET CONTROL FOR THE WAYNE COUNTY SKYWARN NET. THIS NET IS ACTIVATED TO ASSIST THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN WHITE LAKE. ONLY LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS IN WAYNE COUNTY, CERTIFIED WITH SKYWARN TRAINING MAY CHECK INTO THIS NET. THIS IS A DIRECTED NET WITH THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING WEATHER RELATED CONDITIONS. HOWEVER, REPORTS OF A PRIORITY OR EMERGENCY NATURE, REGARDLESS OF TRAINING WILL BE ACCEPTED.

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HAS ISSUED A THUNDERSTORM WATCH FOR (AREA) UNTIL (TIME)

THIS SKYWARN NET IS ACTIVATED IN CONDITION GREEN. THIS NET IS DIRECTED, AND NO TRANSMISSIONS SHALL BE MADE WITHOUT NET CONTROLS PERMISSION. IF WEATHER CONDITIONS WORSEN, THE NET WILL BE UPGRADED AS CONDITIONS WARRANT.

WHEN CHECKING IN TO THE NET, PLEASE GIVE YOUR CALL SIGN PHONETICALLY, AND LOCATION BY THE CLOSEST MAJOR INTERSECTION. IF NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BY NET CONTROL, PLEASE RECHECK.

(Start check-ins in the area (Jesup, Odum, Screven, etc.) that will be affected by the weather event first)

. **WE WILL NOW ACCEPT CHECK-INS FROM THE _____ AREA. NET CONTROL RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING:(repeat call signs and location)**

. **WE WILL NOW ACCEPT CHECK-INS FROM THE _____ AREA. NET CONTROL RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING:(repeat call signs and location)**

. **WE WILL NOW ACCEPT CHECK-INS FROM THE _____ AREA. NET CONTROL RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING:(repeat call signs and location)**

(Net control shall make announcements regarding net status at least every 10 minutes in condition green)

Note: During condition GREEN, other traffic not pertaining to the Skywarn net may be made with net controls permission. However, transmissions must be kept short. Condition GREEN is an excellent time to conduct training and explain the types of information accepted under YELLOW and RED, or to review how to determine hail sizes, wind speed, or other pertinent data. Review the TEL, Time, Effect and Location reporting system. E-mail a copy of the check-ins to ????@ARRL.NET ASAP after the net.

In condition GREEN, you are accepting reports of:

1. **1. Gust Front Arrival**
2. **2. Approaching Thunderstorms**
3. **3. Torrential Rain (with near 0 visibility)**
4. **4. any other severe weather event**

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Skywarn Net Preamble Condition **YELLOW**

THIS IS (INSERT CALL SIGN HERE) NET CONTROL FOR THE WAYNE COUNTY SKYWARN SYSTEM. THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HAS ISSUED A THUNDERSTORM WARNING/TORNADO WATCH FOR (AREA) UNTIL (TIME).

THIS SKYWARN NET IS UNDER CONDITION YELLOW. THIS NET IS DIRECTED, AND NO TRANSMISSIONS SHALL BE MADE WITHOUT NET CONTROLS PERMISSION. IF WEATHER CONDITIONS CHANGE, THE NET WILL BE UPGRADED OR DOWNGRADED AS REQUIRED.

PLEASE KEEP ALL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEF AND CONCISE, USING THE TEL (TIME, EFFECT, AND LOCATION) FORMAT.

NET CONTROL WILL ONLY ACCEPT REPORTS OF:

1. **1. INTENSE, FREQUENT LIGHTNING (FREQUENCY)**
2. **2. HAIL (GIVE DIAMETER)**
3. **3. DAMAGING WINDS (SPEED, DIRECTION, AND STATE IF ANY DAMAGE)**
4. **4. HEAVY OR TORRENTIAL RAINS (NEAR ZERO VISIBILITY)**
5. **5. FLOODING (WATER OVER CURBS)**
6. **6. WALL CLOUDS (DIRECTION, ROTATION?, SPEED)**
7. **7. FUNNEL CLOUDS (DIRECTION, ROTATION?, SPEED)**
8. **8. TORNADOS (ON THE GROUND?, WHERE?, MOVEMENT/DIRECTION, SPEED, VISIBLE DAMAGE)**

(Net control shall make announcements regarding net status at least every 5 minutes in condition yellow)

NOTE: Only above reports should be accepted under condition yellow. Net control must discourage other reports or requests from Amateur Radio operators for information on the storm. Our function is to obtain information for the National Weather Service and Wayne County, Not to provide weather bulletins. Net Control must be firm in conducting a Skywarn Net, especially in condition Yellow and Red.

E-mail a copy of the check-ins to ????@ARRL.NET ASAP after the net.

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Skywarn Net Preamble Condition **RED**

THIS IS (INSERT CALL SIGN HERE) NET CONTROL FOR THE WAYNE COUNTY SKYWARN SYSTEM. THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HAS ISSUED A TORNADO WARNING FOR (AREA) UNTIL (TIME).

THIS SKYWARN NET IS UNDER CONDITION RED. THIS NET IS DIRECTED, AND NO TRANSMISSIONS SHALL BE MADE WITHOUT NET CONTROLS PERMISSION. IF WEATHER CONDITIONS CHANGE, THE NET WILL BE UPGRADED OR DOWNGRADED AS REQUIRED.

PLEASE KEEP ALL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEF AND CONCISE, USING THE TEL (TIME, EFFECT, AND LOCATION) FORMAT.

NET CONTROL WILL ONLY ACCEPT REPORTS OF:

- 1. 1. WALL CLOUDS (DIRECTION, ROTATION?, SPEED)**
- 2. 2. FUNNEL CLOUDS (DIRECTION, ROTATION?, SPEED)**
- 3. 3. TORNADOS (ON THE GROUND?, WHERE?, MOVEMENT/DIRECTION, SPEED, VISIBLE DAMAGE)**

(Net control shall make announcements regarding net status at least every 5 minutes in condition RED)

NOTE: Only the above reports should be accepted under condition RED. Net control must discourage other reports or requests from Amateur Radio Operators for information on the storm.

Under condition RED, there should be more silence than transmissions. Frequent statements must be made by net control to remind all listeners that we are under condition RED, due to a tornado warning and only accepting the above reports.

WC EMA, or the NWS must be notified immediately of reports from trained spotters when under condition YELLOW or RED.

Record any damage reports to transmit to the NWS after the event.

E-mail a copy of the check-ins to ????@ARRL.NET ASAP after the net.