

STEELE County Skywarn Emergency Operations Center

507-774-7241 OR 507-774-7242

Amateur Radio:

Primary Repeater 147.105 Mhz (100.0 PLL)

Secondary Repeater 145.490 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 *in contact* 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 *not reaching* 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 Use a measurement rather than a description:
(over 1/2") 1/4" is pea size. 3/4" is dime size. 1-3/4" is a golf ball.
1/2" is marble size. 1" is a quarter. 2-3/4" is a baseball.

Damaging Winds When reporting wind speeds or gusts, tell whether they are measured or estimated --
(over 40 mph) 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.

