When Seconds Count StormReady Communities Are Prepared

Photo courtesy of Jim Reed

Many laws and regulations help local emergency managers deal with hazardous material spills, search and rescue operations, and medical crises but there are few guidelines dealing with hazardous weather operations.

Recognizing this need, the National Weather Service designed StormReady to help cities, counties, and towns implement procedures to reduce the potential for disasterous, weather-related, consequences.

StormReady

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

How Can I Learn More About StormReady?

For more information about StormReady visit the StormReady website at:
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/stormready/

or

Contact the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at your local NWS forecast office

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Admistration
National Weather Service
1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Is Your Community Ready When the Weather Changes?

Make Your Community StormReady

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Emergency workers and citizens sift through tornado wreckage.

American's live in the most severe weather-prone country on earth. Each year a startling 10,000 thunderstorms, 2,500 floods, 1,000 tornadoes, and 10 hurricanes impact the United States. Potentially deadly severe weather impacts every American. Communities can now rely on the National Weather Service's StormReady program to help them guard against the ravages of Mother Nature.

What Is StormReady?

Ninety percent of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related. Through the StormReady program, NOAA's National Weather Service gives communities the skills and education needed to survive severe weather -- before and during the event. StormReady helps community leaders and emergency managers strengthen their local hazardous weather operations.

StormReady Does Not mean Storm Proof

StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through better planning, education and awareness. Communities have fewer fatalities and property damage if they plan before dangerous weather arrives. No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

How Can My Community Become StormReady?

The entire community – from the mayor and emergency managers, to business leaders and civic groups – can take the lead on becoming StormReady. Local National Weather Service forecast offices work with communities to complete an application and review process. To be recognized as StormReady, a community must:

- ✓ Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center;
- ✓ Have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings and to alert the public;
- ✓ Create a system that monitors local weather conditions;
- ✓ Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars;
- ✓ Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.