



## **2008 Milwaukee Repeater Club - Severe Weather Reporting**

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During selected severe weather events, trained weather spotters submit storm reports on 146.910 repeater for relay to the National Weather Service as part of the SKYWARN program. Our reports provide the N-W-S with real-time, 'ground truth' information, and verify radar data so that the appropriate warnings can be issued. Our severe weather reports also permit us to individually test our operational readiness and emergency communication skills.

In south central and southeast Wisconsin, a standard severe weather reporting criteria and reporting format has been established for all Skywarn/weather net frequencies within the 20 counties served by the Milwaukee/Sullivan National Weather Service office. This process established by the Sullivan Committee ensures brevity and uniform reporting.

### **ON-AIR REPORTING CRITERIA**

- 1 **Tornado** or **Waterspout**
- 2 **Funnel Clouds** - Be sure of your observation!
- 3 **Wall Cloud** (Rotating?) Be sure of your observation!
- 4 **Heavy Damage** *Roof & wall materials damaged-collapsed-missing. Uprooted trees, large branches broken, light poles, mobile homes.*
- 5 **High Winds** - 58 MPH or higher. *(Specify estimated or measured)*
- 6 **Hail** - 3/4 Inch (Penny Size) or larger. *Estimated or measured? Report the largest size observed. Ground Covered, Depth?*
- 7 **Flooding** – *Major structural damage / Evacuations, Roads blocked, depth, washed out, River banks overflowing.*

#### **LOWER PRIORITY: Report by Winlink, E-mail, E-Spotter, or on-air only at the request of the NCS.**

- 8 Small Hail: *Less than 3/4 inch. (Specify estimated or measured.)*
- 9 Minor Damage: *To buildings, trees, road types, power lines.*
- 10 Minor Flooding: *Water over the curb, some water over roads, some water out of banks.*
- 11 Visibility: *Less than 1/2 mile from precipitation or blowing dirt.*
- 12 Rainfall: *1/4 Inch or more within 15 minutes. Include starting & ending time of your measurement.*
- 13 Winds: *40-57 MPH (Estimated or Measured?)*

### **MAKING A REPORT**

To make a report, transmit your call sign plus the key word(s) from the above criteria list. The Net Control Station (NCS) will acknowledge you with the words "Go ahead." Next transmit your Time-Location-Condition-Source information. The NCS will then acknowledge your last transmission.

You: "This is W9XYZ.....Hail."  
Net Control: "X Y Z go ahead."  
You: "At 4:35PM, 1.2 miles south of Hales Corners, Milwaukee County, 1 inch measured hail, W9XYZ."  
Net Control: "Roger X Y Z, copy 1 inch measured hail at....." etc.

**Time:** When you observed the weather event using a 12-hour format. **Location:** Your distance & direction to the nearest city center, village/landmark, and county\*\* **Condition:** Estimated or Measured? Describe what you observed, size, intensity, water depth, magnitude, etc. **Source:** Your legal call sign.

\*\* Mobile stations in rural area should always know their location and include the nearest major cross roads, county trunks, & highways.

\*\* Cultural/political city centers on MRC Website: [www.mrc91.org/wx\\_map\\_index.html](http://www.mrc91.org/wx_map_index.html) (or) [www.mke-skywarn.org/cities.htm](http://www.mke-skywarn.org/cities.htm)

Post and save this form near your base/mobile station and home/work locations.