

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, NOAA
PITTSBURGH, PA
SKYWARN INFORMATION SHEET



Report Severe Weather (Backup)	877-633-6772 (General Public)
Weather Spotter Field Guide	http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/brochures/SGJune6-11.pdf
E-Spotter	spotter.weather.gov
Email	PBZ-Skywarn@noaa.gov
NWS Pittsburgh	www.weather.gov/pittsburgh
Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Pittsburgh.gov
NOAA Weather Radio	www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr
Storm Prediction Center	www.spc.noaa.gov
NWS Online Weather School	www.srh.noaa.gov/jetstream
River Flood Monitoring	www.weather.gov/ahps
CoCoRaHS	www.cocorahs.org
NWS Amateur Radio Frequency	147.09 MHz, Backup – 146.88 MHz

IMPORTANT WEATHER TO REPORT

When you report, please give your location (including your county) and the time of the observation. Try to report as soon as possible after observing the event and, **remember to be careful!** Please concentrate on the following phenomena:

SNOWFALL	After 2 inches of new snow, and then at 4 inches, 6 inches, and every 3 inches thereafter (e.g., 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, etc.)
FREEZING RAIN	As soon as you observe the occurrence of freezing rain or freezing drizzle, especially if it starts to collect on objects. Call again if the ice accumulation exceeds 1/4 inch.
THUNDER SNOW	Location and time of occurrence
WIND SPEEDS	Report wind speeds greater than 40 mph
RAINFALL	Report when you receive one inch (and then at least every inch thereafter)
FUNNEL CLOUD	A “rotating” appendage descending from the base of a cumulonimbus cloud, but not touching the ground. If possible, always look at the area beneath the funnel cloud for flying debris. If flying debris is observed, it is a tornado.
TORNADO	Violently rotating column of air descending from a cumulonimbus cloud and touching the ground. Look for flying debris. If possible, report any injuries or fatalities
HAIL	Report hail 0.50” or larger. Specify the diameter based on the hail scale (see other side)
FLOODING	Report any flooding you observe, including basement, road, stream, creek, and ice jam flooding. Report the name of the stream/creek, road number/name (if applicable) and depth
DAMAGE	Report all storm-related damage (large branches, fallen trees, structural damage, flood damage, etc.) Even if it is several days after the event.

DEWPOINT SCALE

Degrees “F”	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	>70
Thunderstorm chance	Poor	Fair	Moderate	Good	Excellent

HAIL	Pea	Plain M&M	Penny	Nickel	Quarter	Half Dollar
Scale	0.25 in	0.50 in	0.75 in	0.88 in	1.00 in	1.25 in
	Golf Ball	Baseball	Softball			
	1.75 in	2.75 in	4.00 in			