



Contact: Donna Dubberke
563-391-7094

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**NOAA's National Weather Service
Recognizes Quad City International Airport as StormReady**

In a ceremony to be held Sept. 27, officials from NOAA's National Weather Service will recognize the Quad City International Airport for meeting rigorous guidelines necessary to earn the distinction of being StormReady®. The Quad City International Airport is the only airport in Illinois and the 6th in the U.S. to be recognized as StormReady.

"The Quad City International Airport has developed a severe weather strategy that is both practical and proactive," said Donna Dubberke, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office in the Quad Cities. "This StormReady recognition acknowledges their efforts and their exceptional commitment to the safety of all those who work in or pass through their facility."

Bruce Carter, Director of Aviation, Quad City International Airport, says "We are proud to have put in the necessary effort to become StormReady. Being prepared for weather events that may come our way benefits our travelers, employees, and tenants within the airport facility. We take safety very seriously, both inside the terminal building and on airport grounds. This is a major step that shows our commitment to public safety."

Stephan Kuhl, Meteorologist in Charge, National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office in the Quad Cities, will present the StormReady recognition at 8 am on Tuesday September 27 during a ceremony at the Quad City International Airport. Airport officials will receive a certificate and special StormReady signs. The StormReady recognition will be in effect for three years and then can be renewed.

"The United States is the most severe weather prone region of the world. The mission of the National Weather Service is to reduce the loss of life and property from these storms, and StormReady helps communities evaluate their preparedness strategies," Stephan Kuhl said.

To be recognized as StormReady, a community must:

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

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On the Web:

NOAA's StormReady program:

www.stormready.noaa.gov

Quad City International Airport:

www.qcairport.com

NOAA's National Weather Service in the Quad Cities:

www.weather.gov/quadcities