



NEWS FROM NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2011

NOAA's National Weather Service Recognizes Rock Island Arsenal as StormReady

In a ceremony to be held Sept. 21, officials from NOAA's National Weather Service will recognize the Rock Island Arsenal for meeting rigorous guidelines necessary to earn the distinction of being StormReady®. The Rock Island Arsenal is the 22nd military location, and the 1795th community in the U.S. to be recognized as StormReady.

"The Rock Island Arsenal 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 also acknowledges their growing role as a strong community partner during severe weather events."

"This designation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire Rock Island Arsenal community," said Jeremiah Cowgill, emergency manager, Rock Island Arsenal. "We have worked very hard over the last few years to improve installation preparedness for all-hazards; increasing our ability to see hazards before they affect us and better communicate throughout the installation with the partnerships we have cultivated. Most importantly, the work put forth has increased our ability to save lives, protect property, and serve our most deserving -- the Military, Family Members, and Civilians of the Rock Island Arsenal."

Stephan Kuhl, meteorologist in charge, National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office in the Quad Cities, will present the StormReady recognition at 1 pm on Wednesday September 21 during a ceremony on Arsenal Island. The Rock Island Arsenal will receive a certificate and special StormReady signs. The StormReady recognition will be in effect for three years and 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

NOAA's National Weather Service in the Quad Cities: www.weather.gov/quadcities

StormReady® is a registered trademark used by the National Weather Service.