National Weather Service

www.weather.gov/wichita

Severe Weather Reports

Report using the T-E-L approach

T=Time E=Event L=Location

Example: "I saw a tornado at 4:43pm approximately 2 miles south of my location which is 4 miles NW of El Dorado"

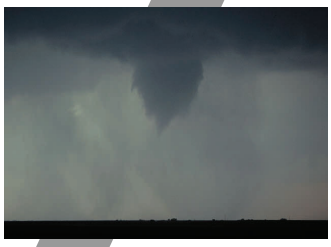
TORNADOES

Tornado: A violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground.

Wall Cloud: A persistent , often abrupt lowering at the cloud's rain-free base.

WALL CLOUD

FUNNEL CLOUDS



Funnel Cloud: A rapidly rotating column of air, extending downward from the thunderstorm base, but ***NOT*** in contact with the ground.

1-800-367-5736

Damaging Winds: Report winds 50 mph or greater and any tree or structure damage either presently occurring or recently occurred.

> 58 mph: Whole trees in motion; twigs and small limbs break off trees

58-72 mph: Severe Thunderstorm criteria begins. Shingles torn off or minor structural damage; breaks off large limbs; pushes over shallow rooted trees

73-112 mph: Substantial roof and structural damage; windows broken; trailer houses overturned; large trees uprooted

113+mph: Roofs torn off houses; weak buildings and trailer houses destroyed

DAMAGING WINDS

HAIL

Report referencing a coin, sports ball or citrus

5/8" : Dime
3/4" : Penny
7/8" : Nickel
1" : Quarter
1 1/4" : Half Dollar
1 3/4" : Golf Ball
2 1/2" : Tennis Ball
2 3/4" : Baseball
4" : Grapefruit

Avoid using marble size, which could be many sizes

Flash Flooding: Report...

- water standing on, or flowing over roads.
- Roads that are washed out.
- People or vehicles swept away by flowing water .
- Rivers or streams out of their banks.
- Heavy rains in excess of an inch per hour.

FLASH FLOODING

1/2009