

StormReady Schools



NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

October 2011

What is StormReady?

To help Americans guard against the ravages of severe weather, NOAA's National Weather Service introduced StormReady, a program designed to help communities and organizations arm themselves with the communication and safety tools necessary to save lives and protect property. In a nutshell, StormReady establishes an industry standard for severe weather preparedness and communication.

How does this apply to my school?

There is perhaps no greater potential weather disaster than one that impacts a school full of children. In much the same way that StormReady principles saved the lives of 50 movie goers in a single Ohio movie theater, the StormReady for Schools program could save the lives of dozens or even hundreds of students and staff.

Is there a cost for the program?

No. Application and participation is free – just the cost of your time to review your procedures and submit the application.

What are the benefits of StormReady?

StormReady provides an opportunity to review and improve your severe weather plans based on current science and technology. StormReady schools receive a certificate and outdoor sign, typically presented at a school board meeting. Most importantly you will gain confidence and public recognition that you are doing all that you can to protect the lives of your staff and students.

What are the StormReady Supporter eligibility guidelines?



StormReady Supporter guidelines vary from area to area. In the Quad Cities region, guidelines include:

- Endorsement by local emergency management officials
- A written severe weather plan encompassing all components of the operation
- Practices, exercises, and/or training as appropriate
- Redundant ways to monitor weather, including NOAA Weather Radio where available
- Appropriate dissemination method(s) and other means of taking effective action

To find out specifics for your location, contact your local National Weather Service office.

How do we apply for StormReady?

The appropriate safety or leadership official submits a StormReady application, completing any parts applicable to the school. A printable form is available online at www.stormready.noaa.gov. The application is submitted to the local National Weather Service office, where it will be reviewed by the local StormReady board, comprised of representatives from the National Weather Service and local and state emergency management.

Find out more!

Contact your local National Weather Service Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) or local Emergency Manager for further information about the StormReady Supporter program.

National Weather Service Quad Cities (serving parts of eastern Iowa, western Illinois, and extreme northeast Missouri)

Donna Dubberke, Warning Coordination Meteorologist: donna.dubberke@noaa.gov or (563) 386-3976 x726

Tornado Damage to Greensburg High School



Photo Courtesy: FEMA

Photo Courtesy: FEMA



On the web:

- StormReady.....www.stormready.noaa.gov
- National Weather Servicewww.weather.gov
- National Weather Service Quad Citieswww.weather.gov/quadcities