

# Thunderstorm Damage Threat Categories



The National Weather Service issues Severe Thunderstorm Warnings (SVR) when a severe storm is happening or imminent, letting the public know it's time to take action to stay safe (such as taking shelter).

These warnings are Impact-Based, focusing on the expected storm impacts, allowing for more precise communication and recommended actions.

Now, to further improve communication, NWS will be including Damage Threat Categories to all SVRs.

## Considerable / Destructive Tags

| Thunderstorm Damage Threat (tag category) | Wind                                       | Hail diameter            | WEA? |
|---|--|--------------------------|------|
| Base (no tag; default)                    | 58 mph (60 mph will appear in the warning) | 1.00 inch (U.S. quarter) | NO   |
| Considerable                              | 70 mph                                     | 1.75 inch (golfball)     | NO   |
| Destructive                               | 80 mph                                     | 2.75 inch (baseball)     | YES  |

- The highest of the categories will be invoked from either a qualifying wind or hail value, or both.
- Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) messages will be activated on mobile devices whenever a Severe Thunderstorm Warning with a 'Destructive' tag is issued or updated. For more information on WEAs, please visit [weather.gov/wrn/wea](https://www.weather.gov/wrn/wea).

