

V. DESCRIPTION of the SKYWARN AMATEUR RADIO STATION

5.1 Components of the SKYWARN Amateur Radio Station

The SKYWARN Amateur Radio Station consists of two radios. The first is a Kenwood TM-733 2-meter/440 Mhz transceiver donated by Mid South Amateur Radio operators. This is the primary radio and is used for the primary SKYWARN net, as well as to monitor other nets and frequencies throughout the area. The other radio is a Kenwood TS-450S HF transceiver. In order to use the HF radio you must hold a General or above class amateur radio license or be present with a control operator with those privileges.

In addition, a Motorola handheld radio is used to communicate with the Memphis/Shelby County Emergency Management Agency. All communications should be made on F2 (154.995 Mhz) using the call-sign "Memphis Weather".

Instructions on the operation of all equipment in the SKYWARN amateur radio station can be found in the bottom drawer of the amateur radio file cabinet labeled "equipment".

VL TRAINING

6.1 Types of Training Offered by the NWS

6.1.1 Spotter Training

The National Weather Service conducts spotter training for any interested group or organization anywhere in the Memphis CWA. These classes are designed both for those new to storm spotting and those who want to refresh or learn about additional storm spotting techniques and topics.

6.1.2 Responder Training

The NWS, in conjunction with the SKYWARN Amateur Radio Operations Coordinator, also offers a net control training course for those amateurs who have been selected to serve as SKYWARN Responders. The class offers instruction on SKYWARN structure and organization, net operations and procedures and NWS operations.

6.2 Drills

Drills are extremely useful in identifying weak and strong areas in the overall SKYWARN system and are conducted on a regular basis. Both unannounced and planned operational drills should be conducted periodically throughout the year to ensure that the network is fully functional.