Severe Weather Awareness Week

April 30th to May 6th, 2017

Weather-Ready Nation

Kat Hawley
NOAA’s National Weather Service
Binghamton NY
“Average” Year and Trends in the U.S.

- 650 Deaths
- 15B in Losses
- 26,000 Severe Thunderstorms
- 6 Atlantic Basin Hurricanes
- 1,300 Tornadoes
- 5,000 Floods

Regardless of the cause, the trend shows an increasing number of extreme weather events at increasing cost to the nation.
While the NWS has Improving Forecasts
Looking west-northwest from Virginia Tech’s Stadium as lightning strikes at a distance of 0.6 miles. The strike occurred at 8:50 P.M. on Aug 27, 2000, moments before the opening kickoff (courtesy of the Roanoke Times 2000).
Extreme Events Are Well Forecasted For But...

April 28-29th 2011: Deadliest outbreak since 1932
~190 tornadoes    ~311 fatalities

Sandy
• 138 fatalities
• ONLY 34% residents along the NJ coast evacuated!!

72 hour Forecast

120 hour Forecast

NHC Forecast Tracks & Cone of Uncertainty for Sandy
Issuance Time in EDT

Thursday, Oct. 25 (11 PM)
Saturday, Oct. 27 (2 PM)

Landfall Location

Categorical Outlook Legend:
TSTM  SLGT  MDT  HIGH

Categorical Outlook Legend:
HAIL 187
164 <2in
23 2in+

WIND 340
336 50kt+
4 65kt+

TORN 254
254 Torn.
TOTAL 781
We NEED YOU!
To Help Us Build A Weather-Ready Nation.

We need YOU to help build a Weather-Ready Nation (WRN). By building a WRN, you can help change the way America responds to disasters.

Building a WRN requires action from America’s Weather Industry, local and state emergency managers, researches, the media, local schools, nonprofits and businesses.

Join us in engaging your local community to make this country responsive and resilient to all weather events and become an Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador!
What are the Duties of a WRN Ambassador?

- Maintain active dialog with your local NOAA representative
- Disseminate appropriate NOAA-generated information such as preparedness messages, and identify opportunities for collaboration including research initiatives and outreach events.
- Attend annual SKYWARN classes
- Become an active member in your community promoting weather safety and preparedness
How can I become a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador?

Go Here:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/amb_tou.html
Where Can I find Weather Information To Promote Weather Safety and Preparedness?

http://weather.gov/bgm
http://weather.gov/buf
http://weather.gov/aly
http://weather.gov/okx

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/summer_safety.html

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/
WATCH vs. WARNING

Watch - “Be Prepared”
Conditions are favorable for severe weather in or near the watch area. Watches are issued for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

Warning - “Take Action”
The severe weather event is imminent or occurring in the warned area. Warnings are issued for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, flash floods and river flooding. Issued by NWS Binghamton for central New York and northeast Pennsylvania.

CAUTION
- Check the forecast often
- Monitor the skies
- Know where to take shelter

DANGER
- Take shelter immediately!
- Seek further information
- Monitor the forecast