



# National Weather Service Hastings Nebraska



## Spotter Reference Sheet

### What To Report

- **Injuries/Fatalities**
- **Tornado** (rotation? debris?)
- **Funnel Cloud** (rotation?)
- **Wall Cloud** (rotation?)
- **Hail** (all sizes)
- **Wind Gusts** (40 mph or greater)
- **Damage:**
  - Trees down (snapped or uprooted? diameter?)
  - Branches broken (diameter?)
  - Power poles down
  - Structural Damage
- **Heavy rain** (1" or more)
- Flooding
- Unusual road closures due to damage or flooding
- Buildings filling with water
- Ice jam, levee failure, dam break

### How To Report

- Include:
- **Who** you are
  - **Where** you are
  - **Where** the weather occurred
  - **When** it occurred
  - **What** was observed
- Report through your local spotter network  
*or*
- Contact NWS direct via**
- Phone: ***Provided in training class***
- Web: [www.weather.gov/hastings](http://www.weather.gov/hastings)  
("Submit a Storm Report")
- Ham Radio: WX0GID
- Share pictures via**
- Facebook NWSHastings
- Twitter @NWSHastings

### Estimating Wind Speed (Beaufort Scale)

25–31 mph	Large branches in motion, whistling in power lines
32– 28 mph	Whole trees in motion
39–54 mph	Twigs break off trees, wind impedes walking
55–72 mph	Damage to chimneys and antennas, shallow– rooted trees blown over
73–112 mph	Peels surface off roof, windows broken, trailer houses overturned
113+ mph	Roofs torn off houses, weak buildings and trailer houses destroyed, large trees uprooted

### Helpful Internet Links

NWS Hastings	<a href="http://www.weather.gov/hastings">www.weather.gov/hastings</a>
NWS for Mobile Devices	<a href="http://mobile.weather.gov">mobile.weather.gov</a>
Downloadable Spotter Guide	<a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/SGJune6-11.pdf">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/brochures/SGJune6-11.pdf</a>
Radar and Weather Tutorials	<a href="http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jetstream/">http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jetstream/</a>
Storm Spotter Glossary	<a href="http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=spotterglossary">http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=spotterglossary</a>
CoCoRaHS Network	<a href="http://www.cocorahs.org/">http://www.cocorahs.org/</a>



## Supercells: Step By Step

- Step 1: Identify the updraft (and downdraft)
- Step 2: Determine storm motion
- Step 3: Make sure your location is safe
- Step 4: Assess strength/potential
- Step 5: Look for visible rotation in updraft
- Step 6: Watch downdraft for strong winds / hail  
or watch updraft for rotating wall cloud / tornado
- Step 7: Report critical information

