

National Weather Service Impact-Based Warnings



The National Weather Service (NWS) **Impact-Based Warnings** (IBWs) provide additional information to media and emergency managers, facilitating improved public response and decision making.

Improved Communication

IBWs allow users to quickly identify the warning's most critical information. They also provide different risk levels within the same warning product, communicate recommended actions more precisely, and enable the NWS to express confidence levels of potential impacts.

Unique Formatting

The IBW Format breaks down the HAZARD, SOURCE, and IMPACT of the weather hazard. If the warning is labeled as DESTRUCTIVE or CATASTROPHIC an extra headline is added.

Damage Threat Tags

Especially serious impacts are communicated by a Damage Threat Tag, with labels such as "CONSIDERABLE or CATASTROPHIC". These help to communicate the overall risk level. In addition, on some IBWs, the presence of certain Damage Threat Tags will trigger Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on mobile phones.

Warning Tags

Each warning ends with a unique list of tags which can include impact tags, source tags, and magnitude tags. These provide a quick overview of the hazard and severity.

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

National Weather Service Austin/San Antonio TX

622 PM CDT Sun Apr 17 2022

The National Weather Service in Austin San Antonio has issued a

* Severe Thunderstorm Warning for...

South central Medina County in south central Texas...

Eastern Frio County in south central Texas...

West central Atascosa County in south central Texas...

* Until 715 PM CDT.

* At 622 PM CDT, a severe thunderstorm was located over Yancey, or 12 miles west of Devine, moving southeast at 30 mph.

THIS IS A DESTRUCTIVE STORM FOR Yancey and Moore.

HAZARD...Baseball size hail and 60 mph wind gusts.

SOURCE...Radar indicated.

IMPACT...People and animals outdoors will be severely injured. Expect shattered windows, extensive damage to roofs, siding, and vehicles.

* Locations impacted include...

Pearsall, Devine, Charlotte, North Pearsall, Moore, Goldfinch,

Bigfoot, Biry, Yancey, Schattel, Kyote, Dobrowolski and Three Oaks.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

This is a dangerous storm. Prepare immediately for large destructive hail capable of producing significant damage. People outside should move to shelter inside a strong building, and stay away from windows.

Large hail, damaging winds, and continuous cloud to ground lightning are occurring with this storm. Move indoors immediately. Lightning is one of nature's leading killers. Remember, if you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning.

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LAT...LON 2916 9922 2928 9906 2888 9862 2870 9901

TIME...MOT...LOC 2322Z 328DEG 26KT 2917 9911

THUNDERSTORM DAMAGE THREAT...DESTRUCTIVE

HAIL THREAT...RADAR INDICATED

MAX HAIL SIZE...2.75 IN

WIND THREAT...RADAR INDICATED










MAX WIND GUST...60 MPH

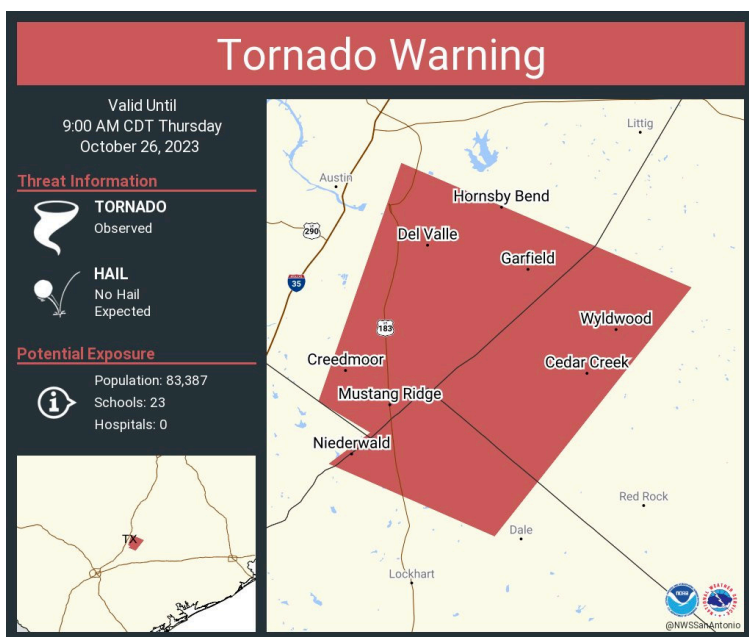


Damage Threat Tags by Product



Damage threat tags with this symbol trigger Wireless Emergency Alerts.

Tornado Warning	Flash Flood Warning	Severe Thunderstorm Warning	Extreme Wind Warning* 
“Base” (no tag) 	“Base” (no tag)	“Base” (no tag)	IBW formatting coming soon with the possible use of Damage Threat tags.
Considerable 	Considerable 	Considerable	
Catastrophic “Tornado Emergency” 	Catastrophic “Flash Flood Emergency” 	Destructive 	
Snow Squall Warning	Special Marine Warning	Dust Storm Warning 	
“Base” (no tag)	Use IBW unique formatting, but do not include Damage Threat Tags.	Use IBW unique formatting, but do not include Damage Threat Tags or Warning Tags.	
Significant 			



Enhanced Warnings

With the addition of valuable information, streamlined formatting, and tiered-risk levels, IBWs represent an enhanced Warning product from the National Weather Service. The goal is to facilitate improved public response and decision making by distinguishing situational urgency, and ultimately better meet societal needs in the most life-threatening weather events.

For more information on Impact-based Warnings, visit weather.gov/impacts.

IBW warnings are depicted as polygons to display where the threat area is for an ongoing hazard. The above Impact Graphic is used by NWS offices on social media to convey some of the information in an IBW warning.