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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Lake Delton becomes a National Weather Service StormReady® community**

National Weather Service officials have recognized Lake Delton as a StormReady® community. The [StormReady®](#) program helps community leaders and residents better prepare for hazardous weather and flooding. StormReady® communities have made a strong commitment to implement the infrastructure and systems needed to save lives and protect property when severe weather strikes.

Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist of the National Weather Service forecast office in Milwaukee, will present village officials with special StormReady® sign during a ceremony at the Village of Lake Delton Administration Building at 50 Wisconsin Dells Pkwy S, Lake Delton on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.

“The Lake Delton area is particularly susceptible to hazardous weather due to the amount of tourism it sees year round. The efforts by the local Emergency Management group, particularly Village Emergency Manager Darren Jorgenson, have gone above and beyond to make sure that both local residents and tourists are prepared for when severe weather occurs,” said Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist.

“Our community is very popular with outdoor recreation, so it is important to have plans and redundant capabilities to warn our locals, businesses and the 4 million tourists we see annually, “ said Darren Jorgenson, Lake Delton Fire Chief and Village of Lake Delton Emergency Management Director. “I learned about the StormReady® program and discovered it was helpful with providing a roadmap that tied many initiatives together. It has guided us in making improvements which helped us strengthen our safety programs and has made us better prepared as a community to respond to and recover from severe weather events.”

The nationwide community preparedness program, founded in 1999, is a grassroots approach to preparing for natural hazards. Today, more than 2,200 U.S. communities are better prepared for severe weather through the StormReady program.

To be recognized as StormReady®, a community must maintain a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive National Weather Service warnings and to alert the public; be able to monitor local weather and flood conditions; conduct community preparedness programs; and ensure hazardous weather and flooding are addressed in formal emergency management plans, which include training [SKYWARN®](#) weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

The StormReady program is part of the National Weather Service's working partnership with the [International Association of Emergency Managers](#) and the [National Emergency Management Association](#). The StormReady recognition is valid for three years and can be renewed.

The NWS's Milwaukee Forecast Office, located in Dousman, Wi., is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for about 3 million people in 20 Wisconsin counties. Join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Working with partners, the [National Weather Service](#) is building a [Weather-Ready Nation](#) to support community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather.

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*StormReady® is a registered trademark used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*