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The University of Wisconsin-Madison becomes a National Weather Service StormReady site

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

“The University of Wisconsin-Madison has taken a proactive approach to making sure that people on their campus are alerted to severe weather. South Central Wisconsin is one of the most active areas of severe weather in Wisconsin, particularly in April and May when classes are still in session. There also are a number of large outdoor events, such as football games, where the public is exposed to potentially dangerous weather. That is why the preparedness work being done at the University is so important to keeping people safe from severe weather,” said Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Milwaukee.

“The EF2 tornado on the University of Wisconsin-Platteville campus in 2014 reminded everyone about the severe weather risks to all universities within the State of Wisconsin. Receiving our StormReady designation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison highlights our commitment in building campus-wide resiliencies to severe weather events and maintains our commitment to the over 60,000 students, staff, and faculty that the campus is active in strengthening its capacity to prepare, respond, and recover from these events,” said Shane Hubbard from the Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The nationwide community preparedness program, founded in 1999, is a grassroots approach to preparing for natural hazards. Today, more than 2,350 U.S. communities are better prepared for severe weather through the StormReady program.

To be recognized as StormReady, a site 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 National Weather Service's Milwaukee Forecast Office](#), located in Sullivan, Wis., is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for about 3 million people in 20 counties across south central, east central and southeast Wisconsin. 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.