

NOUS41 KWBC 161733
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-56
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
140 PM EDT TUE OCT 16 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS...NOAA WEATHER
WIRE SERVICE /NWWS/ SUBSCRIBERS...EMERGENCY MANAGERS
WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK /EMWIN/ SUBSCRIBERS...
OTHER NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ CUSTOMERS AND
PARTNERS...NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: ROBERT J. MCLEOD
CHIEF...AWARENESS BRANCH

SUBJECT: IMPORTANT CHANGE IN SEVERE WEATHER WARNING CODING FOR
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IN FLORIDA...EFFECTIVE JANUARY 9 2002

ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 9 2002 AT 800 AM EASTERN STANDARD TIME
/EST/...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILL ADOPT THE NEW FEDERAL
INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM /FIPS/ CODE FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
IN FLORIDA. IF SEVERE WEATHER IS OCCURRING...OR FORECAST TO
OCCUR...AT THE SCHEDULED IMPLEMENTATION TIME...A SERVICE CHANGE
NOTICE WILL BE ISSUED TO POSTPONE THIS CHANGE UNTIL THURSDAY
JANUARY 10 2002 AT 800 AM EST.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY...WHICH
ASSIGNS AND MAINTAINS FIPS CODES...OFFICIALLY CHANGED THE FIPS
CODE FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IN JULY OF 1999...BUT...FOR SEVERAL
REASONS...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ DID NOT MAKE THE
CHANGE AT THAT TIME. THE FIPS CODE CHANGE IS RELATED TO THE
RENAMING OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...FORMERLY KNOWN AS DADE COUNTY.

THE COUNTY FORM OF THE UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHIC CODE /UGC/ USED IN
NWS PRODUCTS AND THE COUNTY PORTION OF THE NOAA WEATHER RADIO
/NWR/ SPECIFIC AREA MESSAGE ENCODING /SAME/ CODE ARE DIRECTLY
DERIVED FROM THE FIPS COUNTY CODE. THEREFORE...ON JANUARY 9 2002
AT 800 AM EST...THE NWS WILL BEGIN USING THE NEW COUNTY CODE
NUMBER FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA /086/ AND DISCONTINUE USING
THE CURRENT COUNTY CODE NUMBER FOR DADE COUNTY /025/. THE COUNTY
CODE IS CRITICAL FOR RECEIVING SHORT-FUSED WARNINGS SUCH AS
TORNADO AND FLOOD WARNINGS.

ALL NWS CUSTOMERS AND WEATHER RADIO OWNERS WHO RECEIVE PRODUCTS
COVERING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND RELY ON THE C FORM OF THE UGC
CODE...OR THE NWR SAME COUNTY CODE...MUST REPROGRAM THEIR
EQUIPMENT NO LATER THAN JANUARY 9 2002 IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO
RECEIVE THE WARNINGS LISTED IN TABLE 1. WE RECOMMEND CUSTOMERS
PROGRAM THE NEW CODE /086/ AT THEIR CONVENIENCE BEFORE JANUARY 9
2002 AND RETAIN THE CURRENT CODE /025/ IN YOUR SYSTEM/S/ UNTIL
AFTER JANUARY 9 2002. THAT WAY...THE CHANGE ON JANUARY 9 2002
WILL BE TRANSPARENT TO YOU AND YOU WILL ONLY NEED TO DELETE THE

OLD CODE /025/ AT YOUR CONVENIENCE AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION.

FOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO LISTENERS IN THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AREA:

ALL INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...SUCH AS THE MEDIA...LAW ENFORCEMENT...EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT..AND SCHOOLS...WHO OWN A WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER WITH NWR SAME CAPABILITIES...AND HAVE SPECIFICALLY PROGRAMMED IN DADE COUNTY... MUST REPROGRAM THEIR WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER/S/ IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE ALL WARNINGS FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY. INSTRUCTIONS ON REPROGRAMMING YOUR WEATHER RADIO ARE IN THE OWNERS MANUAL OR AVAILABLE FROM THE MANUFACTURER OF YOUR RADIO...OR YOUR LOCAL RETAILER. FOR YOUR INFORMATION...A LIST OF MANY WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER MANUFACTURERS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr.htm

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION NEEDED TO REPROGRAM YOUR WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER ARE:

1/ THE NWS OFFICE IN MIAMI HOME PAGE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mia/>

2/ THE NWS NOAA WEATHER RADIO SAME CODE INFORMATION PAGE AT:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwrsame.htm>

3/ A TOLL-FREE NUMBER PROVIDED BY THE NWS:

1-888-NWR-SAME /1-888-697-7263/

TABLE 1. NWS PRODUCTS AFFECTED BY THE FIPS CODE CHANGE FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY:

PRODUCT NAME	WMO HEADING	AWIPS ID
TORNADO WARNING	WFUS52 KMFL	MIATORMIA
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING	WGUS52 KMFL	MIASVRMIA
FLOOD WARNING	WUUS52 KMFL	MIAFFWMIA

UPDATED COUNTY FILES AND MAPS SHOWING THE NEW COUNTY NAME AND CODE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE BY NOVEMBER 1 2001 /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

http://www.awips.noaa.gov/mapdata/newcat/county/county_all.htm

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS AND ANY FUTURE NWS IMPLEMENTATIONS OF FIPS CODE CHANGES WILL BE POSTED TO A NEW WEB PAGE ENTITLED "NWS IMPLEMENTATIONS OF FIPS CODE CHANGES" AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwsfipschg.htm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...CONTACT RUSSEL PFOST /METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE/ OR JIM LUSHINE /WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST/ AT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE IN MIAMI VIA TELEPHONE AT 305-229-4528.

THIS AND ALL OTHER NWS SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm>

END
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