

NOUS41 KWBC 061923  
PNSWSH

SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 04-53  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC  
250 PM EDT WED OCT 6 2004

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

FROM: MARK TEW  
ACTING CHIEF  
FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: CHANGE OF CLIFTON FORGE... VA FROM INDEPENDENT  
CITY TO TOWN STATUS IN PUBLIC PRODUCTS...  
EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1 2005

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY... FEBRUARY 1 2005 AT 400 AM EASTERN STANDARD  
TIME /EST/...0900 COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/... THE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE /NWS/ WILL IMPLEMENT A CHANGE TO THE  
FEDERAL INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM /FIPS/ CODE FOR CLIFTON  
FORGE IN VIRGINIA. IF SEVERE WEATHER IS OCCURRING... OR FORECAST  
TO OCCUR... AT THE SCHEDULED IMPLEMENTATION TIME... AN UPDATED  
SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE WILL BE ISSUED TO POSTPONE THIS CHANGE  
UNTIL WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 2 2005 AT 400 AM EST. THE FIPS CODE FOR  
THE INDEPENDENT CITY OF CLIFTON FORGE /560/ WILL NO LONGER BE  
USED IN PRODUCTS LISTED IN TABLE 1 AND WILL BE REPLACED WITH THE  
FIPS CODE FOR ALLEGHANY COUNTY /005/.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY... WHICH  
ASSIGNS AND MAINTAINS FIPS CODES... OFFICIALLY CHANGED THE FIPS  
CODE FOR CLIFTON FORGE IN JULY OF 2001 BUT FOR SEVERAL REASONS  
NWS DID NOT MAKE THE CHANGE AT THAT TIME. THE FIPS CODE CHANGE  
IS CAUSED BY THE CHANGE IN STATUS OF CLIFTON FORGE FROM  
INDEPENDENT CITY TO TOWN STATUS. CLIFTON FORGE IS NOW AN  
INCORPORATED PLACE WITHIN ALLEGHANY 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 FEBRUARY 1 2005  
AT 400 AM EST... NWS WILL BEGIN USING THE COUNTY CODE NUMBER FOR  
ALLEGHANY COUNTY /005/ AND DISCONTINUE USING THE CURRENT CODE  
NUMBER FOR CLIFTON FORGE /560/. THE COUNTY CODE IS CRITICAL FOR  
RECEIVING WATCH... WARNING AND FOLLOW-UP PRODUCTS SUCH AS TORNADO  
AND FLOOD WATCHES AND WARNINGS.

ALL NWS CUSTOMERS AND WEATHER RADIO OWNERS WHO RECEIVE PRODUCTS

COVERING CLIFTON FORGE AND RELY ON THE C FORM OF THE UGC CODE...OR THE NWR SAME COUNTY CODE...MUST REPROGRAM THEIR EQUIPMENT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1 2005 IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE WARNINGS LISTED IN TABLE 1. WE RECOMMEND CUSTOMERS PROGRAM THE NEW CODE /005/ AT THEIR CONVENIENCE BEFORE FEBRUARY 1 2005 AND RETAIN THE CURRENT CODE /560/ IN THEIR SYSTEM/S/ UNTIL AFTER FEBRUARY 1. THAT WAY THE CHANGE ON FEBRUARY 1 WILL BE TRANSPARENT AND USERS WILL ONLY NEED TO DELETE THE OLD CODE /560/ AT THEIR CONVENIENCE AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION.

FOR NOAA WEATHER RADIO LISTENERS IN THE CLIFTON FORGE AREA:

ALL INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN CLIFTON FORGE...SUCH AS THE MEDIA... LAW ENFORCEMENT... EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT... AND SCHOOLS... WHO OWN A WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER WITH NWR SAME CAPABILITIES... AND HAVE PROGRAMMED IN CLIFTON FORGE INDEPENDENT CITY... MUST REPROGRAM THEIR WEATHER RADIO RECEIVER/S/ TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE WARNINGS FOR CLIFTON FORGE. INSTRUCTIONS ON REPROGRAMMING YOUR WEATHER RADIO ARE IN THE OWNERS MANUAL OR AVAILABLE FROM THE MANUFACTURER OF YOUR RADIO... YOUR LOCAL RETAILER OR ONLINE AT THE MANUFACTURER WEB SITE. 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](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NWR/NWRRCVR.HTM)

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

NWS OFFICE IN BLACKSBURG HOME PAGE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.ERH.NOAA.GOV/RNK/](http://WWW.ERH.NOAA.GOV/RNK/)

NWS NOAA WEATHER RADIO SAME CODE INFORMATION PAGE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NWR/NWRSAME.HTM](http://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NWR/NWRSAME.HTM)

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 CLIFTON FORGE VA FROM INDEPENDENT CITY TO TOWN STATUS:

| PRODUCT NAME                 | WMO HEADING | AWIPS ID  |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| TORNADO WARNING              | WFUS51 KRNK | WBCTORRNK |
| SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING  | WUUS51 KRNK | WBCSVRRNK |
| FLASH FLOOD WARNING          | WGUS51 KRNK | WBCFFWRNK |
| SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT     | WWUS51 KRNK | WBCSVSRNK |
| FLASH FLOOD STATEMENT        | WGUS71 KRNK | WBCFFSRNK |
| FLOOD WARNING                | WGUS41 KRNK | WBCFLWRNK |
| FLOOD STATEMENT              | WGUS81 KRNK | WBCFLSRNK |
| WATCH REDEFINING STATEMENT   | WWUS61 KAKQ | WBCSLSVA  |
| WATCH CLEARANCE NOTIFICATION | WWUS61 KRNK | WBC WOU#  |

# IS LAST DIGIT OF WATCH NUMBER BETWEEN 0 AND 9.

UPDATED COUNTY FILES AND MAPS DELETING THE REFERENCE TO CLIFTON FORGE AS INDEPENDENT CITY AND INCLUDING CLIFTON FORGE AS A PART OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE FOLLOWING WEB SITE BY NOVEMBER 1 2004 /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/GEODATA/CATALOG/COUNTY/HTML/COUNTY.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/geodata/catalog/county/html/county.htm)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS AND ANY FUTURE NWS IMPLEMENTATIONS OF FIPS CODE CHANGES IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/NWR/NWSFIPSCHG.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/nwsfipschg.htm)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS CHANGE...PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVID WERT  
METEOROLOGIST IN CHARGE  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
1750 FORECAST DRIVE  
BLACKSBURG VA 24060  
PHONE: 540-552-0084  
EMAIL: DAVID.WERT@NOAA.GOV

HENDRICUS LULOFS  
WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
1750 FORECAST DRIVE  
BLACKSBURG VA 24060  
PHONE: 540-552-1041 EXT. 223  
EMAIL: HENDRICUS.LULOFS@NOAA.GOV

THIS NOTICE AND OTHER SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/notif.htm)

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