



Over 90% of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related, leading to around 500 deaths and over \$23 billion in damage per year. To help Americans guard against the ravages of severe weather, the National Weather Service (NWS), in partnership with emergency management, designed the voluntary StormReady program.

StormReady provides jurisdictions with a standard level of preparedness for hazardous weather and recognizes emergency managers for their hard work. Since the program's inception in 1999, over 2,300 counties, communities, universities, tribal nations, commercial

enterprises, government offices and military installations have been recognized as StormReady.

### What are the eligibility guidelines?

Guidelines are based on population and include:

- ✓ Establishing a 24-hour Warning Point (WP) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with redundant methods for receiving NWS warnings and relaying them to the public, including NOAA Weather Radios placed in key facilities
- ✓ Ensuring hazardous weather is addressed in Emergency Response Plans
- ✓ Providing education and outreach about hazardous weather, including a Skywarn Weather Spotter network
- ✓ Maintaining a strong working relationship between the emergency manager and the local NWS Forecast Office
- ✓ Ensuring EOC/WP is able to monitor local weather observation data for hazardous conditions

### How does our site apply?

The appropriate community or county or EOC official completes a StormReady application based on population. The application is online at [www.stormready.noaa.gov](http://www.stormready.noaa.gov). Once completed, you submit the application to the local National Weather Service office. It is then reviewed by the local StormReady board, comprised of NWS representatives and local and state emergency management.



### Any benefits for becoming StormReady?

- ✓ Helps save lives during severe weather events (e.g., [Caledonia, MS EF-3 tornado Jan 2008](#))
- ✓ May make eligible for up to 25 ISO/Community Rating System points to possibly lower National Flood Insurance Plan premiums
- ✓ Improves coordination and timeliness of hazardous weather warning reception and dissemination
- ✓ Provides an image incentive to your community

***When seconds count, StormReady communities are prepared!***

## How are StormReady communities recognized?

A local StormReady board, comprised of NWS officials and state and local emergency managers, reviews your application. The board conducts a site visit to verify the application and then either approves the recognition or recommends improvements. StormReady recognitions are valid for 3 years, at which time a simple renewal process must occur.

Once officially recognized, your local NWS office will arrange an optional ceremony in your community commending the preparedness efforts of your civic leaders and emergency responders. You will receive a formal notification letter and certificate from your local NWS office plus a StormReady sign suitable for display in public buildings, your EOC, or other public location. You'll also join the growing list of recognized StormReady communities on our national web site.



## StormReady Supporters

An entity that promotes the principles and guidelines of the StormReady program but is unable to meet all the formal recognition guidelines may be eligible to become a StormReady Supporter. Examples of StormReady Supporters include, but are not limited to, businesses, hospitals, shopping centers and malls, schools, nuclear power plants, scout camps, museums and stadiums. Any of these sites can also receive full StormReady recognition.

## StormReady partnership with IAEM and NEMA

StormReady is administered through a National StormReady Board that includes representatives from NWS, the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). The National StormReady Board addresses challenges, prioritizes projects and identifies future goals for the program. A long standing goal for the board is to establish more incentives such as a StormReady grant, that will better support jurisdictions in becoming StormReady and maintaining their ability to deal with hazardous weather.



*"StormReady helped Lewis and Clark County upgrade its Community Rating System (CRS) rating from a 9 to an 8, which means a 10% discount in NFIP flood insurance premiums. It also provided the impetus for the county to provide NOAA Weather radios to 50 public buildings in Helena, East Helena, and the rest of the county, including 23 schools. I heartily endorse the program and remain a strong supporter of StormReady." -Disaster and Emergency Services, Lewis and Clark County, MT*

## Find out more!

Contact your local NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist local emergency manager for further information about the StormReady or the StormReady Supporter program: [www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm](http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm)

***From tornadoes to flash floods, hurricanes to winters storms—help us build a StormReady nation more resilient to hazardous weather!***

National Weather Service .....	<a href="http://www.weather.gov">www.weather.gov</a>
International Association of Emergency Managers .....	<a href="http://www.iaem.com">www.iaem.com</a>
National Emergency Management Association .....	<a href="http://www.nemaweb.org">www.nemaweb.org</a>
StormReady .....	<a href="http://www.stormready.noaa.gov">www.stormready.noaa.gov</a>