

Acadiana Skywarn Weather Reporting Criteria

Skywarn Net: Routine Weekly Weather Report

Report observations in this order. If no observation then skip.

1. Temperature
2. Dew Point
3. Humidity
4. Barometric Pressure
5. Barometric Trend (Rising, Falling, Steady)
6. Wind
7. Sky Condition

Sky Condition	Opaque Cloud Coverage
Cloudy / Overcast	88-100%
Mostly Cloudy / Considerable Cloudiness	70-87%
Partly Sunny / Mostly Cloudy	51-69%
Mostly Sunny / Partly Cloudy	26-50%
Sunny / Mostly Clear	6-25%
Sunny / Clear	0-5%

8. Current Precipitation (raining, sleeting, snowing, mixed). Otherwise, report None.
9. 24-hour Precipitation Total

Skywarn Net Severe Weather Reporting

Skywarn Net Severe Weather Reporting		
What Skywarn Observers Should Report to Net Control		
#	Weather Phenomena	Description
1	Impacts/Damage	<i>Significant</i> impacts or damage are observed (i.e. impacts to structures, impassable roads, etc.).
2	Wind	40 mph or stronger.
3	Hail	1/2 inch (penny or dime size) or larger in diameter.
4	Tornado/Funnel Cloud	Any tornado, funnel cloud, or waterspout.
5	Flooding	Any significant amount of water in normally dry areas.
6	River Flooding	Any river rising above their normal bank level.
7	Heavy Rain	1 inch or more within 12 hours OR 1/2 inch or more within 1 hour.
8	Heavy Snow	Any snow for the lowlands/coast OR 6 inches or more in the mountains.
9	Blowing Snow	When winds are more than 30 mph AND visibility is less than 1/2 mile.
10	Freezing Rain	Any freezing rain.
11	High Surf or Tides	Any surf or high tides that are causing beach erosion.
12	Geologic Hazards	Any impacts from landslides, volcanic activity, or tsunamis.
<i>In Acadiana, items 1-7 are most likely to be observed. Items 8-12 are possible or highly unlikely.</i>		

Estimating Wind Speeds with Visual Clues

Beaufort number	Description	Speed	Visual Clues and Damage Effects
0	Calm	Calm	Calm wind. Smoke rises vertically with little if any drift.
1	Light Air	1 to 3 mph	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift, not by wind vanes. Little if any movement with flags. Wind barely moves tree leaves.
2	Light Breeze	4 to 7 mph	Wind felt on face. Leaves rustle and small twigs move. Ordinary wind vanes move.
3	Gentle Breeze	8 to 12 mph	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion. Wind blows up dry leaves from the ground. Flags are extended out.
4	Moderate Breeze	13 to 18 mph	Wind moves small branches. Wind raises dust and loose paper from the ground and drives them along.
5	Fresh Breeze	19 to 24 mph	Large branches and small trees in leaf begin to sway. Crested wavelets form on inland lakes and large rivers.
6	Strong Breeze	25 to 31 mph	Large branches in continuous motion. Whistling sounds heard in overhead or nearby power and telephone lines. Umbrellas used with difficulty.
7	Near Gale	32 to 38 mph	Whole trees in motion. Inconvenience felt when walking against the wind.
8	Gale	39 to 46 mph	Wind breaks twigs and small branches. Wind generally impedes walking.
9	Strong Gale	47 to 54 mph	Structural damage occurs, such as chimney covers, roofing tiles blown off, and television antennas damaged. Ground is littered with many small twigs and broken branches.
10	Whole Gale	55 to 63 mph	Considerable structural damage occurs, especially on roofs. Small trees may be blown over and uprooted.
11	Storm Force	64 to 75 mph	Widespread damage occurs. Larger trees blown over and uprooted.
12	Hurricane Force	over 75 mph	Severe and extensive damage. Roofs can be peeled off. Windows broken. Trees uprooted. RVs and small mobile homes overturned. Moving automobiles can be pushed off the roadways.

Severe Hail Guideline Criteria:



1.5"



1.75"



2.5"



2.75"



Not Severe



0.25"



0.71"



0.75"



0.88"



1"



1.25"