

JOPLIN-JASPER COUNTY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SEVERE WEATHER CLASS

Severe Weather Season can be ANYTIME!

NOTE: The Annual Statewide Tornado Drill will be held Tuesday, March 4, 2014. Plan to test your facility's severe weather procedures at approximately 1:30 p.m. We will sound the sirens unless the drill is cancelled by the National Weather Service or due to inclement local weather. A back-up day is scheduled for Thursday, March 6.

Joplin/Jasper County has an extensive SKYWARN NETWORK of communications, spotters, concerned citizens, and sirens to warn of approaching severe weather. While more effective technology becomes available every day to help us forecast approaching severe weather, it is still the trained eyes on the sky that we need to give us that precious warning time so vital to save lives. The more trained people we have, the more efficient our warning network becomes.

Our annual severe weather class will be held on **Monday, February 24, 2014** at 6:30 p.m. The class lasts approximately 90 minutes and is being held at the MSSU Criminal Justice Auditorium, 3950 E. Newman Rd. **The class is free and open to the public. You do not need to make a reservation to attend.** A meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Springfield will be conducting the class. The presentation is formatted to outline the types of weather conditions that may develop into severe situations and thus need to be relayed to the National Weather Service and our warning communication system. It also stresses the need for caution and safety procedures that should be taken when watching severe weather situations develop.

It is important that schools, hospitals, nursing homes, business and industry have people trained to watch for severe weather situations. Lives may be saved by a last minute warning from a trained person at your facility. Please schedule someone to attend this session.

SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL AREA FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE DEPARTMENTS:
It is VERY IMPORTANT that as many of your personnel attend this class as possible (especially all new personnel). We depend on your expertise and reliability to recognize what you are seeing and what you need to report in helping us track severe weather situations. You are out there and seeing the weather changes and you are a vital part of our SKYWARN Network!

If you need more information contact: Cheryl Wimmer or Keith Stammer at 623-5858