

## Forecasts on the Internet

[weather.gov/raleigh](http://weather.gov/raleigh)

Every forecast and warning issued by the Raleigh National Weather Service Office is placed on the Internet. High resolution graphical forecasts are also available on the web, making old text forecasts a thing of the past. Check out the digital and graphical forecast products by going to the above web site and clicking the icons below the map (*red arrows*).

Radar images are placed on the Internet in near real-time to allow you to see storms all across the region.

From our website you can go to other NWS offices all over the country by clicking the National Weather Service logo (*blue arrow*) in the upper right hand corner of our web page, and following the instructions. This especially helpful when you are traveling.

## NOAA Weather Radio



NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is one of the best means to receive warnings. Forecasts are continuously updated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A NWR can be purchased at any

electronics store. The recommended receiver has both battery backup and a tone-alert feature. The radio can automatically alert you when a watch or warning has been issued... even if the electricity is off. The average transmitter range is 40 miles, depending on topography, the distance from the transmitter, and the quality of the receiver.

There are over 25 transmitters serving North Carolina. The Raleigh National Weather Service provides broadcasts from the following locations:

WNG 706	<b>Garner</b>	162.450 mhz
WXL 58	<b>Chapel Hill</b>	162.550 mhz
WXL 59	<b>Tarboro</b>	162.475 mhz
WNG 586	<b>Henderson</b>	162.500 mhz
WXL 50	<b>Fayetteville</b>	162.475 mhz
WWF 60	<b>Buck Mountain</b>	162.500 mhz
WXL 42	<b>Winston-Salem</b>	162.400 mhz
WNG 597	<b>Ellerbe</b>	162.400 mhz

North Carolina's NOAA Weather Radio Network can be found at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/ncnwr/>



*The National Weather Service is more than meteorologists. Weather forecasting takes a combined effort. The final forecast comes together as a result of meteorologists, hydrologists, weather observers, SKYWARN Spotters, Cooperative Observers, a host of others and YOU, the general public!!*



**"Working Together  
To  
Save Lives"**



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Weather Service**  
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Phone: 919-515-8209  
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[weather.gov/raleigh](http://weather.gov/raleigh)

## Severe Weather

Our number one mission is the protection of life and property. It is important to remember that all thunderstorms are dangerous and every thunderstorm produces lightning. The Raleigh NWS issues severe thunderstorm, tornado and flood warnings for Central North Carolina.

### Thunderstorm safety tips

- Do not seek shelter under a tree.
- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck.
- Move to a sturdy shelter or hard topped vehicle.
- If caught outside, crouch down on the balls of your feet and put your head between your knees.

### Tornado Safety Tips

- Mobile homes should be abandoned!
- In a sturdy building, move to the basement or interior room or hallway and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- Stay away from windows.
- Do not try to out run a tornado in your car. Leave it immediately.
- If caught outside, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression.



## Flood Forecasting

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/hydro/>



We're not finished with rain once it hits the ground. Flooding kills more people on an annual basis than other types of weather phenomena. The NWS is responsible for forecasting how high and how fast creeks and rivers will rise in response to accumulated rainfall. Flood forecasting is quite complex, as topography, effects of urbanization, and rainfall rates and distribution are rarely uniform. In addition, flood forecasting requires extensive coordination with other agencies, such as the U.S. Geological Survey, which maintains river gauges, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which regulates many hydroelectric and flood control reservoirs.

## SKYWARN Spotters

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/skywarn/>



One of the most important assets to our warning, forecast, and verification process is the SKYWARN Spotter Network. A spotter's eye provides real-time observations of tornadoes, hail, winds, flooding and significant cloud formations. Vital information such as rainfall and snow amounts are also relayed to the National Weather Service via spotters. SKYWARN spotters include such individuals as HAMS, police, firefighters, and you! Please see our web site for additional information, schedules, and information about how to become a certified SKYWARN Spotter.

## Cooperative Observation Program

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rah/coop/>



The Cooperative Observation Program (Co-Op) was started in Virginia by Thomas Jefferson in 1776 with the vision of having a weather observer in every county in Virginia. Today there are more than 11,000 volunteers nationwide. One mission of the program is to "provide observational data in near real time to support forecast, warning, and other public service programs of the National Weather Service." To improve ways to obtain and transmit weather data, modernization of one of the older precipitation gauges used in the Co-Op Program was recently implemented at selected sites across the country. The two sites in central North Carolina which have the new upgrade are Clinton and Roanoke Rapids. Pictured above is an upgraded *Fischer & Porter/Belgrade* rain gauge. While utilizing several parts of the old system, the main improvements were replacing the old tape punch mechanism with digital data recording and reporting capabilities and adding a larger solar panel.

## Aviation Forecasts

<http://www.aviationweather.gov/>

A Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) is a description of the aviation weather conditions expected to occur at an airport. The TAF is issued only when routine aviation surface observations are available. At stations where the routine observations are available, TAFs are issued four times daily for a 24-hour period. TAFs are amended whenever significant changes in the weather occur or are anticipated. National Weather Service (NWS) Raleigh currently issues TAFs for Raleigh, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Rocky Mount-Wilson and Fayetteville.