

Gwinnett Skywarn Net Control Quick Reference

Normal reportable criteria to NWS:

- Hail
- Rain >4"/hr
- Lightning only if there is damage
- Wind > 40mph (leaves and limbs ripped from healthy trees)

Weather Reports Must Have:

- WHO made the report
- WHAT incident occurred
- WHERE the incident happened
- WHEN it happened



NWS Reporting Priority:

- EOC (if activated for weather event)
- NWSChat if Hal/John/Kyle are available
- <http://tinyurl.com/atlwreport>
- 1-866-763-4466
- Twitter via #gawx

Reporting by voice or tweet:

"I am <your name> with Gwinnett Skywarn. A Storm Spotter reports <what> with the nearest cross roads of <where and where> at <when>."

Start a net for weather warnings, hail, damaging winds.

Do not start for lightning, rain, or events well outside our area.

Stop the net once the front has passed and the county is no longer threatened.

Skywarn Net Control Tips

- Have an ANCS assistant
- Have a NWS liaison ready for reports
- Do not try to be NCS and liaison at the same time
- Keep NCS transmission as short as possible
- Try to have an ANCS in a different area of the county than you when possible

- Take weather reports first, general check ins second
- Remind check ins to leave pauses
- Remind check ins to be brief
- Remind listeners of reportable criteria before the event gets to the county's borders and during long lulls, but not during the active part of the event
- Keep weather report broadcasts short so they do not impede incoming reports
- If you feel fatigued, ask for a replacement
- Rely on your ANCS to help with noisy check-ins and for relays
- Identify your station more often than the every 10 minutes the FCC requires. If you get busy with reports, you may not have the opportunity for several/many minutes.
- During long lulls, like 30 minutes of warning before a storm hits Gwinnett, transmit and say "This is <callsign> Skywarn Net Control listening for [check ins/reportable criteria]." Do this every 1 to 2 minutes so people know the repeater is in directed net condition.

Alpha
Bravo
Charlie
Delta
Echo
Foxtrot
Golf
Hotel
India
Juliet
Kilo
Lima
Mike
November
Oscar
Papa
Quebec
Romeo
Sierra
Tango
Uniform
Victor
Whiskey
Xray
Yankee
Zulu

Starting a Skywarn net – THIS IS A GUIDELINE ONLY

[Take note of the time before starting the net]

This is net control station [call sign], with Gwinnett Skywarn. We have a developing weather situation threatening Gwinnett county and we are activating a net on this repeater. For now, I am the net control station for this net. My name is [name] and I am calling this net from [location or city]. At any time, stations with emergency or priority traffic should call Net Control immediately. This is a directed net, so please hold your comments and direct your communications to net control only.

{PAUSE}

We will accept and route weather reports meeting the following criteria to the National Weather Service:

{READ REPORTABLE CRITERIA}

Quickly, I need to get an ANCS in case of problems or in case I need to secure my station. Any qualified station willing to be ANCS, please call net control now.

{RECOGNIZE ANCS}

Is there a station available who can serve as a National Weather Service liaison? Please call net control now.

{RECOGNIZE NWS LIAISON – SEE NWS REPORTING PRIORITY}

When calling in a weather report, you must state the following: your call sign phonetically using the NATO alphabet and then again alphabetically. Then tell us your name and your weather incident. Please state the city and nearest crossroads to where the incident occurred. And finally, the National Weather Service needs to know when the incident happened.

To begin, do we have any stations with weather reports meeting the reportable criteria? Please call net control now.

Closing a Skywarn net – THIS IS A GUIDELINE ONLY

Net, please stand by while I check my log. [Count your check-ins]

[ANCS call sign], I show [number], check-ins directly to this net. Do you concur?

Thanks to everyone who participated in this Gwinnett Skywarn net. Thanks also to the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society for the use of the W4GR repeater system.

This is [NCS call sign], Net Control, closing this net at [time] hours local, and turning this repeater over to normal operation. [Take note of the finish time]

After a Skywarn net

E-mail the net report following the same guidelines as the current ARES weekly training net script. If the net was split into shifts, e-mail your portion of the net.