



MCARC Skywarn Net Control Operator Guidelines

(NOTE: This IS NOT an official Skywarn document.)



ALWAYS MAKE SURE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY REMAIN SAFE!

CONTINUALLY MONITOR FOR TRAFFIC FROM WX4MRX!

- 1) Local Skywarn nets should be activated when weather is very near or at severe warning stages. It is not a requirement that NWS has issued a "WARNING" for the area. If the NCS thinks weather is becoming severe, activate a net. (Do **NOT** open "Standby" nets. Use 146.490 Simplex for spotter to spotter weather discussions. NCS should monitor the simplex frequency and notify spotters when an established Skywarn Net is activated)
- 2) Open the nets by saying "This is <callsign> now opening the McMinn County Skywarn net".
- 3) Read any current warnings for the area and mention watches and their expiration time.
- 4) Remind Spotters of severe weather reporting criteria:
 - * hail (any size)
 - * 58MPH or greater winds/damage
 - * Rainfall of 1" or more per hour
 - * Wall or funnel clouds (rotating)
 - * Tornado (on ground with debris cloud)
 - * Flooding
- 5) Take check-ins and severe weather Spotter reports. (you are encouraged to make a log of the net)
- 6) Assign an alternate NCS station away from your area to assume NCS responsibilities should you become directly affected by severe weather, lose power, or the ability to operate. If necessary due to workload, assign the alternate tasks such as liaison(s) to contact WX4MRX with Spotter reports.
- 7) If the net is quiet, announce the active status of the net at least every 10 minutes by saying:
"This is <callsign> continuing the McMinn County Skywarn net - we remain under a (type of warning) until (time)".
- 8) Report all Spotter reports which meet reporting criteria to Morristown NWS immediately by:
 - 1) Primary - by Storm Report [web reporting form](#)
 - 2) Follow-up – WX4MRX radio (primary frequency 147.375 MHz – alternate 146.940 MHz)
 - 3) Last resort by telephone (800-697-0075). (Your Alt NCS can be assigned to do this if needed.)

NOTE: NEVER give out the 800 to MRX over the air! That number is for Skywarn spotters only.
- 9) After contacting NWS, relay the severe report via phone to local EMA or dispatch center (possibly on a non-911 number) to report the most severe reports (tornadoes, funnel clouds, floods, damage such as roofs, trees in road, etc). **NOTE: Check with your local authorities to see if they want this done before doing it!**
- 10) When the existing warning has expired, make a decision whether to remain in open status, depending on other weather happening around your area. If you feel the severe weather has lessened to watch levels, close the net. If conditions remain severe and/or the potential that another warning may be issued in a few minutes, you might want to keep the net open.
- 11) Always thank everyone participating when closing the net, and acknowledge scanner listeners.

McMinn County Skywarn net frequency: Primary 147.060, +, pl 141 Alt. 441.800, +, pl 141.3

MRX [Web Reporting Form](#) MRX Phone: 800-697-0075

WX4MRX Reporting Frequencies: Primary 147.375 MHz - pl 118.8 Alt. 146.940 MHz - pl 118.8
(Repeater may or may not have an active decode tone of 118.8 Hz)