



National Weather Service: SKYWARN® Spotter Training

The South Carolina Fire Academy is partnering with the National Weather Service (NWS) to offer two free, in-person [SKYWARN® Spotter Training programs](#) on its campus in Columbia, S.C. SKYWARN® storm spotters form the nation's first line of defense against severe weather.

In most years, thunderstorms, tornadoes and lightning cause hundreds of injuries and deaths and billions in property and crop damages. To obtain critical weather information, the NWS established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with between 350,000 and 400,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service. Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the focus is reporting on severe local thunderstorms. In an average year, the United States experiences more than 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes.

Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN® spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

The two-hour training sessions are identical; students only need to attend one.

DATE: Tuesday, March 8, 2022
TIME: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
LOCATION: South Carolina Fire Academy, Denny Auditorium
141 Monticello Trail Columbia, S.C. 29203
REGISTER: 9033-22-001 <https://fire.llr.sc.gov/Portal/Registration/registration.aspx?crsidnt=74342>

DATE: Tuesday, April 5, 2022
TIME: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
LOCATION: South Carolina Fire Academy, Denny Auditorium
141 Monticello Trail Columbia, S.C. 29203
REGISTER: 9033-22-002 <https://fire.llr.sc.gov/Portal/Registration/registration.aspx?crsidnt=74343>



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Questions? Please contact [Amy Williamson](#)