



HANCOCK COUNTY, OHIO SKYWARN NET SCRIPTS

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Important Contact Information

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Valid beginning February 2024

If a warning has been issued for Hancock County, proceed directly to page 3.

Standby Net

Used for Watches in Hancock County. Use with SKYWARN Coordinator's discretion or ARES EC discretion.

- "Is this frequency in use? This is [your call, phonetically]."
- "This is [your call, phonetically] commencing the Hancock County SKYWARN Standby Net. A [type of watch] has been issued for Hancock County. All stations standby and prepare to copy watch information."

Read the watch text as issued by the National Weather Service/Storm Prediction Center. You need to include the bullet point text. This will typically be the areas covered by the watch, the time the watch is effective, and primary threats. An example script is included below.

```
URGENT - IMMEDIATE BROADCAST REQUESTED
Severe Thunderstorm Watch Number 26
NWS Storm Prediction Center Norman OK
945 PM EST Tue Feb 27 2024
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The NWS Storm Prediction Center has issued a

- * Severe Thunderstorm Watch for portions of
Northern Indiana
Southern Lower Michigan
Extreme northwestern Ohio
Lake Michigan
- * Effective this Tuesday night and Wednesday morning from 945 PM
until 500 AM EST.
- * Primary threats include...
Scattered damaging winds and isolated significant gusts to 75
mph possible
Scattered large hail and isolated very large hail events to 2
inches in diameter possible
A tornado or two possible

EXAMPLE: The National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center has issued a Severe Thunderstorm Watch for portions of Northern Indiana, Southern Lower Michigan, Extreme Northwestern Ohio, and Lake Michigan, effective from Tuesday night at 945 PM to Wednesday morning at 5 AM. Primary threats include Scattered damaging winds and isolated significant gusts

to 75 MPH, Scattered large hail and isolated very large hail events up to 2 inches in diameter possible, and a tornado or two is possible.

-Pause for a second or two after reading the watch

- “At this time, Net Control will accept check ins to the Hancock County SKYWARN Standby Net. Please give your call phonetically, and state if you have traffic, or no traffic.”

Allow check ins to start, and list who has checked in. If a station has traffic, acknowledge them **FIRST**, and allow them to list their traffic.

- “This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. We are currently under a Condition Yellow, meaning Net Control will accept all SKYWARN criteria reports, and check ins will be held at regular intervals. Please keep the repeater free until Net Control has designated the closing of the SKYWARN net. If a warning is issued for Hancock County, Net Control will advise accordingly. This is Hancock County SKYWARN net control, standing by.”

Periodically ask for additional check-ins. This will be at your discretion, and you will want to factor in the severity of the weather event, the time of day, and the duration of the watch. To ask for additional check ins, use the following script at intervals of your discretion.

“This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for the Hancock County SKYWARN standby net. Are there any additional stations wishing to check in? Please call now, giving your callsign phonetically, and noting if you have traffic, or no traffic.”

If the watch upgrades to a warning, move to page 3.

Active SKYWARN Net

Used when a Severe Weather Warning is issued for Hancock County

- “Is this frequency in use? This is [your call, phonetically].” *If you are coming from a Standby Net, skip this line.*

- “This is [your call, phonetically] commencing the Hancock County SKYWARN Net. A [type of warning] has been issued for Hancock County. All stations standby and prepare to copy warning information.”

Read the watch text as issued by the National Weather Service/Storm Prediction Center. You need to include the bullet point text. This will typically be the areas covered by the warning, the time the warning is effective, and primary threats. An example script is included below.

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BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
Tornado Warning
National Weather Service Northern Indiana
1041 PM EST Tue Feb 27 2024
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The National Weather Service in Northern Indiana has issued a
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* Tornado Warning for...
  East central Berrien County in southwestern Michigan...
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* Until 1115 PM EST.
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* At 1041 PM EST, a severe thunderstorm capable of producing a
  tornado was located near Benton Heights, moving northeast at 45
  mph.
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HAZARD...Tornado.
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SOURCE...Radar indicated rotation.
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IMPACT...Flying debris will be dangerous to those caught without
  shelter. Mobile homes will be damaged or destroyed.
  Damage to roofs, windows, and vehicles will occur. Tree
  damage is likely.
```

```
* This tornadic thunderstorm will remain over mainly rural areas of
  east central Berrien County, including the following locations...
  Spinks Corners, Millburg, and Sodus.
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```
This includes Interstate 94 in Michigan between mile markers 39 and
42.
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EXAMPLE: The National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center has issued a Tornado Warning for East Central Berrien County in Southwestern Michigan until 1115 PM. At 1041 PM, a severe thunderstorm capable of producing a tornado was located near Benton Heights, moving northeast at 45 MPH. Source is Radar indicated rotation. Impacts: Flying debris will be dangerous to those

caught without shelter. Mobile homes will be damaged or destroyed. Damage to roofs, windows, and vehicles will occur. Tree damage is likely. This tornadic thunderstorm will remain over mainly rural areas of east central Berrien County, including Spinks Corners, Millburg, Sodus, and Interstate 94 between mile markers 39 and 42.

-Pause for a second or two after reading the warning.

The above example was chosen due to its severity. During a severe thunderstorm warning, for example, you may ask for check ins, as noted in the Condition Yellow script below. However, with something like a Tornado Warning or other life-threatening situation, you will need to use your best judgement on the severity of the situation, and you may wish to limit check ins, and only call for stations with severe traffic only, or stations in the specifically affected areas. A Tornado Warning would be a good case for Condition Red or Black. Condition Black would be a good case if a tornado is actively on the ground. If you are not sure what to do, do not hesitate to break away from the script or ask for help. Use the condition codes below to help you choose the best option.

- “At this time, Net Control will accept check ins to the Hancock County SKYWARN Net. Please give your call phonetically, and state if you have traffic, or no traffic.”

Allow check ins to start, and list who has checked in. If a station has traffic, acknowledge them **FIRST**, and allow them to list their traffic.

Choose the following script depending on your situation. Condition codes and their descriptions are listed on the following pages. As noted above, do not hesitate to break away from the script or ask for help if you are unsure what to do. If conditions worsen, you may change to a different condition as needed.

Condition Yellow: “This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. We are currently under a Condition Yellow, meaning Net Control will accept all SKYWARN criteria reports, and check ins will be held at regular intervals. If you have a report, please call Net Control, [your callsign, phonetically].”

Ensure to ask for additional check ins at regular intervals. To do this, say the following, then re-read the Condition Yellow script

“This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. Are there any other stations wishing to check in? Please call now, giving your callsign phonetically, and state if you have traffic, or no traffic.”

Condition Red: “This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. We are currently under a Condition Red, meaning Net Control will **only accept reports of a severe criteria**, and check-ins will be suspended. Please keep the frequency clear if you do not have **reports of a severe criteria.**”

***You may ask for check ins at your discretion, but it is advised you wait to ask again for check ins until the event weakens to Condition Yellow criteria.

Condition Black: “This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. We are currently under a Condition Black, repeating, a Condition Black. All stations shall maintain **Radio Silence** unless you have a life-threatening report.

Closing a Net

“This is [your callsign, phonetically], Net Control for Hancock County SKYWARN. The National Weather Service has expired the [watch/warning] affecting Hancock County. If there are any additional reports, please call Net Control now.”

Wait about 10 seconds or so.

“At this time, we will be closing this session of the Hancock County SKYWARN net. Net Control would like to thank all participants for their reports and participation during the net. We will now return the repeater back to normal amateur use. *(If there is a chance of another warning being issued, advise participants to continue to monitor the repeater. You may also return the net to Standby if a watch is still present).*

Condition Codes and Accepted Reports

Condition Yellow: Use for all non-life-threatening warnings affecting Hancock County. Examples include Severe Thunderstorm Watches/Warnings, Flash Flood Watches, Tornado Watches, Blizzard Watches

Condition Yellow Accepted Reports

Severe Weather	Flooding and Rainfall	Winter Weather
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tornadoes, funnel clouds, wall clouds, and persistent cloud rotation. ▪ Structural damage from tornadoes or severe wind gusts. ▪ Any trees uprooted or downed. ▪ Multiple large healthy limbs downed (at least 3" in diameter). ▪ Hail of 1/2" diameter or larger. ▪ Hail covering the ground. ▪ Do not report lightning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1" or more of rainfall in one hour or less (measured). ▪ Flooding that results in evacuations or rescues. ▪ Cars or trailers carried away by flood waters. ▪ Water entering the main level of homes or businesses. ▪ Roads closed or impassable due to high water. ▪ Rapidly rushing water across roadways. ▪ More than one foot of water across roads. ▪ Small streams overflowing their banks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1" or more of snow per hour. ▪ 1" or more of snow in the past 24 hours. ▪ When first measuring 2", 4", or 6" of snow. ▪ Storm total snowfall and snow depth. ▪ Any freezing rain or freezing drizzle. ▪ Any thunder or lightning associated with winter precipitation.

Condition Red: Use for life-threatening widespread warnings affecting Hancock County. Examples include Tornado Warnings, Snow Squall Warnings, and Flash Flood Warnings,

Condition Red Accepted Reports

Severe Weather	Flooding and Rainfall	Winter Weather
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tornadoes, funnel clouds, wall clouds, and persistent cloud rotation. ▪ Structural damage from tornadoes or severe wind gusts. ▪ Any trees uprooted or downed. ▪ Multiple large healthy limbs downed (at least 3" in diameter). ▪ Hail of 1/2" diameter or larger. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flooding that results in evacuations or rescues. ▪ Cars or trailers carried away by flood waters. ▪ Water entering the main level of homes or businesses. ▪ Roads closed or impassable due to high water. ▪ Rapidly rushing water across roadways. ▪ More than one foot of water across roads. ▪ Small streams overflowing their banks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1" or more of snow per hour. ▪ Any thunder or lightning associated with winter precipitation.

Condition Black: Use for life-threatening isolated events affecting Hancock County. This would include a confirmed Tornado on the ground, active Flash Flood Warnings affecting specific areas and causing evacuations, or any weather events causing evacuations.

Condition Black Accepted Reports

Severe Weather	Flooding and Rainfall	Winter Weather
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tornadoes, funnel clouds, wall clouds, and persistent cloud rotation.▪ Structural damage from tornadoes or severe wind gusts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Flooding that results in evacuations or rescues.▪ Cars or trailers carried away by flood waters.▪ Water entering the main level of homes or businesses.	

If you have any questions about the contents of this document, please contact Scott, N1OF at admin@n1of.com