



Oxford County ARES/CERT Comm

Meeting Agenda

January, 2025
7:00 p.m. local



I. Call to Order and Introductions:

II. Notes from EMA Director:

III. Notes from State EC:

1. Trainings – see <https://n1yis.org/oxford-ares-newsletters> MEMA Trainings January 2026

IV. Old Business:

1. Comm Trailer – updates
 - i. Batteries for handheld
 - ii. outlet for new mount on side of trailer
 - a. Remove auto eject, wire directly to panel.
 - b. Use leftover MC cable and greenfield from previous projects?
 - iii. order trailer mounting stabilizers-Bob G to research. 10-1/5' swivel jacks, need to measure trailer height from ground when it is level.
2. EMA Office -Updates
 - i. Status of
 - a. IC 756 & antenna
 - b. 7300 & antenna
 - c. Fusion VHF/UHF & antenna
 - d. Dstar VHF/UHF & antenna
 - e. DMR VHF/UHF & antenna
 - f. GMRS radio & antenna
 - g. Red Cross radio
 - h. Computers

V. New Business:

1. Skywarn – Oxford County coordinator is Brian W1BKW
 - i. he needs spotters and netcontrol stations.
 - ii. DMR and Fusion have weekly nets with net scripts
 - iii. Find your cards from training.
 - iv. Attached is some guides for reporting -Appendix 1 (find more at: <https://www.weather.gov/gyx/skywarn>)
2. Annual Report: See Appendix 2

VI. Other:

1. Events for 2026:
 - i. Planning – Trek Across Maine, Field Day, SET, Horses Across Maine, etc...

VII. Adjourn:

A Sample of Sky-warn notes:

Although reporting criteria may vary slightly depending on the spotter network and local needs, the significant weather elements below (Severe, Hail, Wind, Winter) are ones the National Weather Service (NWS) would like to know about as soon as possible. Again, reports should provide as much detail as possible to describe the where, when, how, etc., of the event.

Severe Hail Wind Winter

Weather Event	#	Report Criteria	#	What Specifically to Report	#
TORNADO		Always Report		Persistent rotation, movement direction, visible debris or damage path	
FUNNEL CLOUD		Always Report		Persistent rotation, movement direction, placement within the storm	
WALL CLOUD		Wall Cloud		Persistent rotation, movement direction, placement within the storm	
HAIL		Pae-size or larger		Report the largest size hailstone	
WIND GUSTS		> 45 mph		Specify estimate or measurement	
HEAVY RAIN		Rainfall >1" per/hr		How much, how quick, what you measured with	
FLASH FLOODING		Always Report		Flooding of roads & structures, rivers outside their banks	
STORM DAMAGE				Damage to structures (roof, siding, windows, etc) Damage to vehicles (from hail and/or wind) Trees or large limbs snapped/uprooted Power/telephone poles and/or lines down Road damage due to flooding	

About SKYWARN™ Training Schedule Becoming a Spotter How to Report What to Report Frequently Asked Questions Resources

Sessions are open to anyone with an interest in becoming a spotter. For those that are under the age of 18, an adult sponsor is required.

Spotter reports help the NWS in the warning process. Your report becomes part of the warning decision making process, and is combined with radar data and other information and used by NWS forecasters to decide whether or not to:

- Issue a new warning
- Cancel an existing warning
- Continue a warning
- Issue a warning for the next county
- Change the warning type (from severe thunderstorm to tornado, for example)

In addition, spotter reports are an integral part of our verification program and our national stormdata database for damaging weather events.

For your reports to be the most useful, they should be as detailed, concise, accurate and timely as possible. Your severe weather report should address the following questions:

HOW TO REPORT:

- WHAT did you see?
- WHERE did you see it?
- WHEN did you see it?

Report the location/approximate location of the event. Be sure to distinguish clearly between where you are and where the event is thought to be happening (i.e., "I'm 5 miles north of Concord. The tornado looks to be about 1 mile to my northwest"). Be sure that reports that are relayed through multiple sources carry the time of the event, **NOT** the report time.

Any other details that are important - How long did it last? Direction of travel? Was there damage? etc.



Appendix 2

Annual participation report by month:

