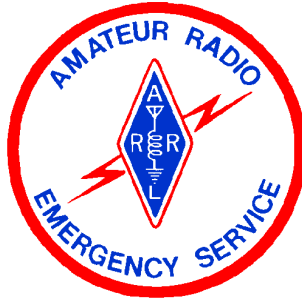


Amateur Radio Emergency Service®



**DONALD VARY
KDØHHN**

***Emergency
Coordinator***

ARES® Marion County

MARION COUNTY SEVERE WEATHER READINESS CONDITIONS

Condition Blue:

Each morning the National Weather Service issues a hazardous weather outlook at 06:00 daily and is updated as conditions warrant. This information will be monitored by the EC, and probably by 911 dispatch staff, as well as Emergency Management. Based on this information, condition blue will be called. This will include email notification of ARES spotters, as well as regular amateur radio storm spotters.

Tornado Watch:

If a Tornado Watch is issued for Marion County, 911 staff, Emergency Management, and the Emergency Coordinator will be continuously monitoring developing conditions. This may be conducted from the EOC, 911 or the EC's location. As conditions develop, a determination will be made if condition green is met.

Condition Green:

Based upon information provided from the National Weather Service forecast data, or an issued watch with storm development to the south-west or west of Marion County, the status will be elevated to condition green. ARES spotters and amateur radio storm spotters will be notified of the condition green, but this is NOT for deployment. The EOC may be activated at this point, depending upon Emergency Management. The EC may be operating Net Control from his location, or from the EOC.

Condition Yellow:

If severe storms develop and approach Marion County, or if a severe warning is issued to an adjacent county with the potential for the same storm to impact Marion County, the status will be elevated to condition yellow, by the EC. This will cause the ARES spotters, as well as all amateur spotters to be activated. Spotters shall notify the NCS of their receipt of the activation message, and of the location they will be observing from. During condition yellow, a roll call will be taken of each spotter every 30 minutes for updates of conditions at their location. Specific criteria for elevation to condition yellow will include: wall clouds, hail, heavy rain, damaging winds, or at least a time frame of 45 minutes lead time for the storm hitting Ralls or Monroe counties.

Condition Red:

If conditions present any of the following criteria, the spotter status will be updated to Condition Red:

- Tornado Warning
- Funnel Cloud
- Tornado

When under a Condition Red, 30 minute reporting will be suspended, and radio traffic will be limited to emergency traffic and immediately reporting criteria.

Condition Black:

The Emergency Coordinator will announce a condition black for a *specific geographical area* when the following conditions are created:

- Tornado on the ground
- Winds in excess of 80 miles per hour
- siren activation is ordered by Emergency Management