

2021 Storm Spotter Guide



IMPORTANT

Never exaggerate information being reported.



Events to Report → Tornado • Wind • Hail • Flooding

Tornado



Wall Cloud

Vertical lowering that is rotating

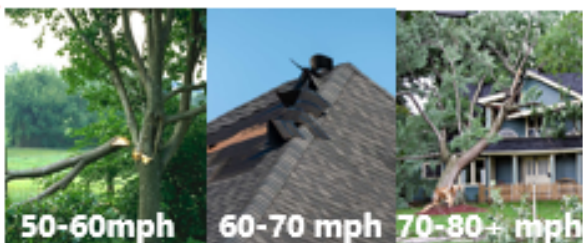
Funnel Cloud

Rotating funnel does not touch the ground

Tornado

Funnel with ground contact and debris

Wind



Damage Indicators

Severity of vegetation or structural damage

Measured Speed

Taken from reliable instrumentation

Estimated Speed

Use damage indicators and best judgment

Hail



Size and Duration

Diameter of the largest hail stone, start time and stop time, if possible

Flooding



Rainfall

Measured amounts and event duration

Flooding

Slower process with standing water

Flash Flooding

Rapidly rising, often flowing water

Location

Description of the area impacted

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Reporting Procedures

Details to Report → **Who • What • When • Where**

Report only what you know! Follow up with us, if possible.

Who?



Identify Yourself

Provide us with your name.

Tell us your affiliation (spotter, police officer, emergency manager etc.).

What?



Event Details

What was the event you observed (tornado, wind, hail, flooding etc.)

Provide the most pertinent details, such as damage and severity.

When?



Time and Duration

When did you observe it begin and end or is it ongoing?

Don't have an exact time? Provide the best estimate you can.

Where?



Location

Use your exact address. We **will not** share your information.

If you're not home, provide a LAT/LON or closest intersection.



How to Report → **Phone • Internet • Social Media**

NWS St. Louis Storm Spotter Line (800) 852-7497

Facebook



US National Weather Service St. Louis

Twitter



@NWS StLouis

Online



inws.ncep.noaa.gov/report

Resources

NWS St. Louis – weather.gov

Storm Prediction Center – spc.noaa.gov

COMET MetED – meted.ucar.edu/index/php

NWS Safety Information – weather.gov/safety

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