



Lake County
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service ®
Amateur Radio Emergency Services ®
1303 North Milwaukee Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048



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For Immediate Release

Severe Weather Spotter Training Offered in Lake County

Libertyville, Illinois, January 7, 2005 -- There is no way to stop severe weather or tornadoes, and not all tornadoes show up on radar, but **they can be seen**. Lives can be saved. Only one instrument can detect a tornado or funnel with complete certainty--**the human eye**.



SKYWARN is an organization of severe weather spotters trained by the National Weather Service to observe and report severe weather conditions.

SKYWARN Spotters are members of the local community who volunteer their time to provide critical ground truth data to their regional National Weather Service Office. Many **SKYWARN** Spotters are also amateur radio operators who make use of portable and mobile radios to report severe weather conditions. When severe weather threatens, the Lake County **Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)** group will activate a severe weather radio network. This allows any eye witness weather report to be relayed to the National Weather Service office in Romeoville. They will also assist other **SKYWARN** programs in adjacent counties, as well as programs in Southern Wisconsin.

Public service professionals are also important assets to the **SKYWARN** program because they are often in the field during severe weather events. Reports of severe weather can be relayed through local Communication Centers.

SKYWARN Severe Weather Spotter Training, is a three hour program, coordinated by the Lake County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), and the Lake County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (R.A.C.E.S.) group. Sessions are planned at 2PM and 7PM, on Thursday March 17th, 2005. It is offered at no charge, but advance registration is required. Seating is limited. Please call Jayne at (847) 377-7100 during normal business hours for registration information.

Please mark Thursday March 17th, 2005 on your calendar and plan on attending the **SKYWARN Severe Weather Spotter Training Program!**

For more information on the Lake County Emergency Management Agency, see their website at: <http://www.co.lake.il.us/sheriff/divisions/emergenc.asp>

For more information on the Lake County R.A.C.E.S. group, please see their web site at: www.races.org, or by email at: lcraces@races.org .

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