



## NWS Storm Spotter Reference Sheet

### Spotter and Forecast Information

- [National Weather Service \(NWS\) Springfield, Missouri Webpage](#)
- [NWS Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)
- [Storm Prediction Center \(SPC\) Convective Outlooks](#)
- [NWS Skywarn Spotter](#)
- [NWS Spotter's Field Guide](#)

### Safety and Education

- [Spring Weather Safety Campaign](#)
- [Tornado Safety](#)
- [Thunderstorm Safety](#)
- [Wind Safety](#)
- [Flood Safety](#)
- [Lightning Safety](#)

### Vulnerable Population Resources

- [Spring Safety - Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#)
- [Spring Safety - Intellectual Disabilities](#)
- [Primavera Gráficas Informativas \(Español\)](#)
- [Sobre Embajadores Weather-Ready Nation \(Español\)](#)

### Other Resources

- [Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador Program](#)
- [Missouri Storm Aware](#)
- [mPING Storm Reports](#)
- [iNWS Sending Storm Reports](#)
- [NOAA Weather Radio](#)

Call: 417-863-8028 or Email: [contact.sgf@noaa.gov](mailto:contact.sgf@noaa.gov)

### Follow NWS Springfield





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## Spotter Safety

**1) Set expectations 2) Be ready to adjust 3) Be willing to escape**

- Maintain two-way communication with department, dispatch or net control
- Receive/Apply information in warnings, follow up statements, and reports
- Monitor radar updates
- Apply windshield test, right hand rule and stay 3-5 miles away from the storm!

## Situational Awareness Keys

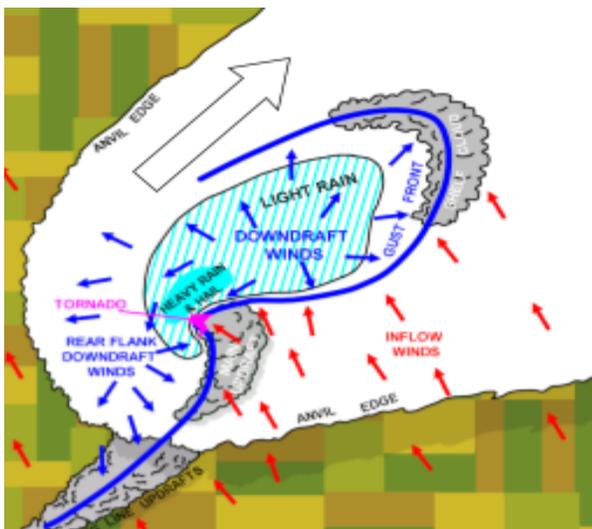
- Review GHWO/HWO
- Type of watch/warning
  - ◆ PDS?
- Impact Based Warning wording
  - ◆ Radar indicated/Observed
  - ◆ Tornado Possible
  - ◆ Considerable/Emergency
- Radar
  - ◆ Appearance and Motion
- Reports

## Tornado Accuracy

### Tornado, Funnel Cloud

- Typically found at rear of supercell
- Rotation should be witnessed
- Damage or debris evident as circulation touches down
- If no damage or debris but rotation evident then report a funnel cloud
- Too far away? Hold off on reporting
- Not sure? Report but state uncertainty

## Supercell Movement and Positioning



## Storm Spotter Safety:

### Supercell

- Step 1: Identify the updraft and downdraft(s) and apply the right hand and wind shield rule. Remain at least 3 miles away!
- Step 2: Determine storm motion, be ready for changes
- Step 3: Ensure safety, identify your escape route
- Step 4: Look for visible rotation in updraft
- Step 5: Watch rain free base for wall cloud and/or tornado development.

### Squall Line:

- Step 1: Identify the shelf cloud extending across the horizon and anticipate damaging wind along the leading edge. Check your location for potential falling objects, position car safely
- Step 2: Watch for short-lived tornadoes