

Kane County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

SKYWARN Severe Weather Net Script

Updated 07/25/15

This script is to be used when severe weather is approaching or has reached Kane County. The script is divided into two parts. Part One is for use when the National Weather Service has issued a **WATCH** for severe weather. Part Two is for use when there is an active **WARNING** for severe weather approaching or inside Kane County. The general rule is that a net will be initiated anytime a NWS Watch or Warning is issued. Nets operated during **WATCHES** will be standby nets, with periodic announcements from Net Control regarding the current situation. When a **WARNING** is issued, the net will go active, take check-ins, and dispatch spotters.

Note: If the net is in **WATCH** status and it appears that severe weather will reach the county in the immediate future, Net Control should consider beginning a check-in process to determine which stations might be available for spotting.

Note: Net Control stations should have radar information available on site, or work in close cooperation with someone who does have that information available. Net Control stations should remember to conduct regular safety/status checks during active weather situations, and to properly identify yourself and the repeater being used.

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SKYWARN Severe Weather Net Script

Part One

Attention all stations. This is (your name and call) for Kane County ARES. The National Weather Service has issued a (Fill in Alert Type) for Kane County, effective until XX:XX AM/PM. As a result, we are activating a Severe Weather/SKYWARN standby net at this time.

We ask that all active stations continue to monitor this frequency. If you wish to use the repeater for normal amateur traffic, please keep your transmissions short and leave space for stations with priority traffic. Net Control will be providing periodic updates on the weather situation as needed. If the situation becomes more severe, we will move to a fully directed SKYWARN net and begin taking check-ins.

Is there a station that can assist by serving as an Alternate Net Control Station? If so, please call now. (Wait for response, acknowledge, and verify that the Alt. NCS knows what they are being asked to do. Note in log.)

Is there someone at the Kane County EOC monitoring this frequency? (Wait for response, and note in log).

(At this point, summarize the NWS message. Ask for questions, and answer. Do not speculate.)

This is (your name and call) for Kane County ARES. This net is now in standby mode. Please continue to monitor for updates.

(From now on, repeat the first 2 paragraphs occasionally, every 15 - 30 minutes. Advise of any changes to the WATCH, or any other significant news related to the situation. Conclude with the last paragraph in the section above. If you feel that the weather situation is escalating, you should consider taking check-ins and determining spotter availability. You do not have to move to a directed net to take check-ins. Remember to coordinate with your Alternate NCS. There should be a Net Control Station on frequency at all times, if possible.)

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SKYWARN Severe Weather Net Script

Part Two

Attention all stations. The National Weather Service has issued a Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado **WARNING** for Kane County, effective until XX:XX AM/PM. As a result, we are activating a Severe Weather/SKYWARN directed net at this time.

This is (Your Call), Net Control Station for the Kane County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). A SKYWARN net is now in session. This is a directed net; please address all communications to the Net Control Station. Stations with priority or emergency traffic may break in at any time by using the words 'PRIORITY', 'URGENT', or 'EMERGENCY'. When recognized, please identify yourself and state the nature of your urgent or emergency traffic.

At XX:XX, the National Weather Service issued Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado **WARNING Number XX**, for Kane County. (*Read or summarize the warning statement. Give the expected locations & arrival times if listed.*)

We will now take check-ins for the Net. We will begin with stations who are available for mobile spotting assignments. We will then take check-ins from stations who are stationary, followed by other stations that may be available for spotting assignments later in the day. When checking in, please give your call and wait for acknowledgement from Net Control. Then respond with your name, your current location, and any special capabilities or limitations you may have. (*APRS, 2 meter only, HT only, etc.*)

If you are NOT a trained weather spotter, please do NOT check into the net. ANY stations with questions may break in using the term 'QUERY?', but we would prefer that only trained spotters actually check in.

We will now begin check-ins of mobile spotters available for assignment. Those stations please call now (*take check-ins*) ... Any more mobile spotter stations??? (*Ask stations to standby for assignment at the conclusion of check-ins*)

We will now begin check-ins of stationary trained spotters. Those stations please call now (*take check-ins*) ... Any more stationary stations???

If there are any trained spotters who might be available for assignment later, please call now... (*take check-ins*) ... Any more??

This is (Your Call), Net Control Station for the Kane County ARES, using the (CALLSIGN) repeater. A SKYWARN net is now in session. Please continue to monitor this frequency. Please pause long enough between transmissions so break-ins can be initiated. Please remember to notify Net Control if you need to leave the net.

At this point you may begin spotter assignments, based on radar information. Consider coordinating with KC OEM if they are on frequency. Try to control your spotters so they go where they are needed, not where they want to go.

Continue with ongoing NCS operations. Give periodic updates, conduct status/safety checks, track spotters moving to assigned locations, do 10 minute station IDs, etc. Consider assigning tactical calls for convenience. Relay updated NWS information. Watch your time and prepare for individuals who might be leaving the net (Alternate NCS, the radar guy, etc.) If the WARNING ends but a WATCH continues, consider going back to standby mode and releasing your spotters. Coordinate with KC OEM as much as possible. Coordinate and verify log information with the Alt. NCS as needed. Take breaks!

ROLL CALL Script:

Attention all stations. We will now conduct a safety check of stations logged in to this net. When you are called, please acknowledge and give your current location. (*Run thru the log of active stations, skipping the ones that do not respond, and returning to call them again after the first pass is completed. Try to flag those that don't respond to the 2nd call and give occasional calls to them when practical.*) This concludes the roll call. Please remember to contact net control before you leave the net. This is (your call) on the (repeater call) for the Kane County SKYWARN net.
