Lucas County Skywarn Net Control Scripts

Revised 05-11-2024

Standby Mode

Standby mode implementation:

When the frequency is clear, make an announcement similar to the following: "Attention all stations, the National Weather Service has issued a (type of watch, Thunderstorm and or Tornado watch)" for Lucas County Ohio. Lucas County SKYWARN is now in standby mode.
Normal use of this repeater may continue but stations are requested to monitor the weather and frequency for additional information or a change in mode status. Then advise everyone of your Call sign, This is (call sign), Lucas County SKYWARN net control."
(In addition, the Net Control Station will initiate or cause to be initiated a LCARES groups.io email notice of the Skywarn Net and mode of the net. Also, formal check-ins are not required in Standby Mode)"

Periodic NCS transmissions:

Approximately every 30 minutes, the active Net Control Station (NCS) will remind the stations that Standby Mode is in effect and repeat the type of weather watch statement issued by the National Weather Service NWS Cleveland. In the event that an adjacent county, who's weather has went from watch to warning and is likely headed in a direction that will effect us in Lucas County. Change your announcement time to less than 15 or less, giving the listeners the current information for Lucas County and the additional information that warnings are adjacent to Lucas County.

Standby mode termination (when not followed directed net mode):

The Net Control Station (NCS) upon termination of National Weather Service (NWS) Cleveland weather watch. Will make an announcement that weather watch has been terminated by the National Weather Service (NWS) Cleveland. Also indicating the Skywarn Net in Standby mode has also been terminated.

Directed Net

Directed net implementation:

Ask for the frequency to clear. Make an announcement similar to the following: "Attention all stations, the National Weather Service has issued a (type of warning, **Severe Thunderstorm** and or **Tornado warning**)" for Lucas County Ohio. Lucas County SKYWARN is now an active and directed net. This is (call sign), Lucas County SKYWARN net control. Read the warning from NWS-Cleveland. *In addition, the Net Control Station will initiate or cause to be initiated a LCARES groups.io email notice of the Skywarn Net and mode of the net.*

Alternate Net Control Station / Liaison Station:

The Lucas County SKYWARN Net Control Station will request an Alternate Net Control Station/Liaison Station, preferably with DMR radio capabilities, in the event that NWS Cleveland will receive reports by either DMR and or telephone.

Check-ins:

The Net Control Station will begin taking check-ins to the Lucas County SKYWARN Net.

Requests from NWS:

From time to time, NWS-Cleveland may make a request for observations from a particular area. When that happens, the NCS will put out a general call for any stations in the specified area, for the requested observations. The alternate net control station/liaison station can report the observations to NWS-Cleveland.

Periodic NCS transmissions:

Approximately every 10 minutes, The Lucas County SKYWARN Net Control Station will make a brief transmission reminding stations of the existing weather warning and that a directed net is in progress. Such reminder transmissions are necessary only during quiet periods. If the net is busy with traffic, the existence of a directed net will be obvious and reminder transmissions will not be required.

Directed net termination:

When the need for a directed net ends, the Lucas County SKYWARN Net Control Station (NCS) will make an announcement. The announcement will include, that the directed net is terminated, a thank you to the alternate net control/liaison station, a thank you to the repeater owner, a thank you to those who checked in, and that the repeater is returning to customary amateur use.

Storm Spotter Quick Reference Reporting Criteria

- **Tornado**
- **Funnel cloud**
- **Wall Cloud**
- **Hail ≥1" in diameter**
- **Wind Damage**
- **Wind measured at > 58mph**
- **Flooding**

Reporting Elements

- **Observer identification (Name & Call Sign)**
- **Time of observation**
- **Type of event**
- **Location (Address if known, Closest intersection, Close Landmark ie. Mall, School, Fire Station, Interstate Exchanges, etc...Identifiable on a map.**
- **Damage (if any, If a tree, estimate diameter, live or dead)**
- **Size of hail (Use guide for determine hail sizes)**
- **Direction of movement (If determinable)**
- **Wind speed (Measured or Estimate if damage observed)**
- **Flooding or Standing water (If unusual for location)**

Guide for determining hail sizes:

- **less than 0.50" Pea**
- **0.50" - Mothball**
- **0.75" - Dime/Penny**
- **0.88" - Nickel**
- **1.00" - Quarter**
- **1.25" - Half Dollar**
- **1.50" - Walnut/Ping Pong**
- **1.75" - Golf Ball**
- **2.00" - Hen Egg**
- **2.50" - Tennis Ball**
- **2.75" - Baseball**
- **3.00" - Tea Cup**
- **4.00" - Grapefruit**
- **4.50" - Softball**