

Louisiana NOAA Weather Radio Stations and Frequencies (MHZ)

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1	Shreveport	WXJ97	162.400	
2	Monroe	WXJ96	162.550	
3	Alexandria	WXK78	162.475	
4	Lake Charles	KHB42	162.400	
5	Lafayette	WXK80	162.550	
6	Baton Rouge	KHB46	162.400	
7	Morgan City	KIH23	162.475	
8	New Orleans	KHB43	162.550	
9	Buras	WXL41	162.475	
10	Burkeville, TX	KXI54	162.550	
1	Natchitoches	WXN87	162.500	
12	Bogalusa	WNG521	162.525	



National Weather Service Forecast Office New Orleans/Baton Rouge 62300 Airport Road Slidell, LA 70460

Louisiana Severe Weather Awareness Week February 29 March 6, 2004



A Cooperative Preparedness Effort of the National Weather Service and the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness







Severe Weather Awareness Week Information

Tornadoes, damaging thunderstorm winds, large hail, and flash floods can occur in Louisiana at any time of the year. However, late winter and spring usually bring the greatest chance of these severe weather events. With this in mind, Governor Kathleen Blanco in cooperation with the National Weather Service has declared the week of February 29 to March 6, 2004, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Louisiana.

The goal of Severe Weather Awareness Week is to call attention to the threat posed by these weather hazards in an attempt to reduce the loss of life, injury, and property damage. Post storm interviews with survivors prove that preventative safety measures greatly enhanced their chance of survival.

Local emergency management agencies, schools, hospitals, and other organizations are invited to participate in a tornado preparedness drill scheduled for Wednesday morning, March 3, 2004.

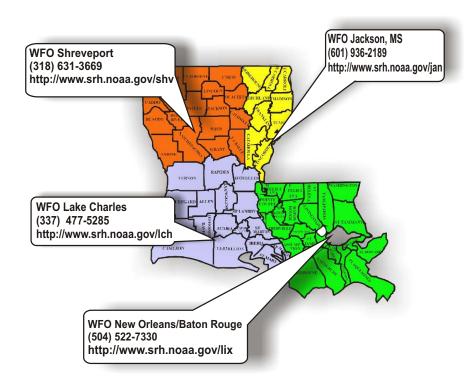
National Weather Service offices serving Louisiana will issue a mock Tornado Warning on NOAA Weather Radio, including a tone alert notification, between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM for those choosing to participate in the severe weather drill. This would be a convenient time to review how you would receive severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings and the emergency actions you would take if the warnings were issued for your area.

In the actual event that severe weather is expected on March 3, 2004, the drill will be rescheduled for the same time on Thursday, March 4, 2004. For further details on the drill, please contact the National Weather Service Office in your area listed in this brochure.

Louisiana Severe Weather Statistics

Average Number of Tornadoes per year	25
Greatest Number of Tornadoes in 1992	79
Least Number of Tornadoes in 1955	3
Average Number of Tornado Days per year	14
Average Number of Tornado deaths per year	2
Tornadoes in 2003	22
Tornado Days in 2003	12

National Weather Service Area Map



Severe Weather Criteria

National Weather Service considers the following criteria as severe weather phenomenon:

- Hail 3/4 inches in diameter or larger (dime sized or greater)
- Measured wind gusts greater than 58 MPH (50 knots)
- Observed wind damage, such as fallen trees, property damage, etc.
- Tornado a funnel cloud that contacts the ground
- Deaths, injuries, or property damage due to lightning
- Flash Flooding or Flooding that causes death, injuries or property damage

Safety, Watch and Warning

Home Tornado Safety Tip



 Move to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

School Severe Weather Safety Tip



- Practice a severe weather action plan including a means to receive severe weather watches and warnings, and safety procedures to follow when warnings are issued or severe weather develops.
- Seek shelter in an interior hallway on the lowest floor.

Lightning Safety Tips



- Move inside a sturdy building or car.
- Do not take shelter in small sheds or under isolated trees.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.

Other Structures Safety Tips



- If you live in a mobile home, move to a substantial shelter if severe weather threatens. The thin walls are vulnerable to wind blown debris and they can be easily overturned by strong wind gusts.
- In large buildings such as office buildings, hospitals, or shopping centers, move rapidly to a designated shelter. Do not try to escape in your car.

Flash Flood Safety Tips



- Avoid walking, swimming, or driving in flood waters.
- If you live in a flood prone area move to higher ground.

Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Watches



- Atmospheric conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms and/or tornadoes during the next several hours.
- Stay alert for rapidly changing weather conditions and be ready to take action if warnings are issued.

Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Warnings



- A tornado or severe thunderstorm has been reported or indicated by radar.
- Seek appropriate safe shelter if you are in the path of the storm.