

Northern Alaska Weather Spotter Guide

Check For the latest Forecasts and Warnings: <http://pafg.arh.noaa.gov/>
Call in your reports to: 458-3708
OR Email your reports into: fairbanks.weather@noaa.gov
State Your Site Name: "Spotter _____"

When Spotter Obs are needed:

Damaging Dust Devils

Funnel Clouds or Tornadoes

Strong Thunderstorms or even strong showers with any of these:

Damaging winds,
Hail greater than 1/4 inch diameter
Significant rainfall in a short amount of time (see below)

Heavy rainfall anytime, such as

More than .50 Inch or more in 1 hour
More than .75 Inch or more in 3 hours
More than 1.00 Inch or more in 6 hours

Flooding - Swollen Rivers due to rain, snow-melt or ice jam blockage:

Roads impassable due to high water
Streams or Rivers overflowing their banks - any occurring or potential property damage?
Mudslides - Roads fully or partially blocked, property destroyed/damaged
Breakup - The FIRST occurrence when ice on the river is breaking up and moving.

Strong Wind that causes damage, even occurring without a thunderstorm (e.g. blew items some distance away). ***Report wind speeds of 35 mph or more.***

Heavy Snowfall anytime, such as

At least three inches in 12 hours or less.

Freezing Drizzle, or Freezing Rain: an estimation of the amount of ice accumulation on the road or surface (some fraction of an inch).

Low Visibilities: in Blowing Snow – 1 mile or less – please try to estimate.

in Fog – 1 mile or less – please try to estimate

Wind Chill Values of -40 or colder...with average wind speeds 15 mph or greater.