



SKYWARN

Net Operations

Lesson 3 - When And How
Is SKYWARN Activated

For Amateur Radio SKYWARN Nets
In Bergen and Passaic Counties
On The W2PQG Repeater



1. When Is SKYWARN Activated For Bergen And/Or Passaic Counties?

- For All Severe Weather Watches Issued By The Storm Prediction Center in Norman OK That Include Bergen and/or Passaic Counties
- For Certain NOAA Weather Radio Tone Alerted Weather Watches Issued By The NWS Upton NY That Include Bergen and/or Passaic Counties
 - ◆ *Either of these usually give a few hours lead time before the event*
- For NOAA Weather Radio Tone Alerted Severe Weather Warnings Issued By The NWS Upton NY That Include Bergen and/or Passaic Counties
 - ◆ *These can be with as few as 0 to 20 minutes of lead time before the event*
- Whenever The On-duty Lead Forecaster At The NWS Upton NY Requests Activation
 - ◆ *This can be with little or no advance notice*



2. How Do I Find Out When SKYWARN Is Activated?

- Your Most Reliable Method Is To Listen For Toned Alerts Broadcast Over Local NOAA Weather Radio
 - ◆ New York City Transmitter – KWO-35
 - ◆ 162.550 Mhz
 - ◆ Sussex County NJ Transmitter – KZZ-31
 - ◆ 162.500 Mhz



3. Some Other Methods Of Receiving Weather Alerts And SKYWARN Activations:

- **EMWIN** — Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
- **Email** — *End User Cost Can Vary from 100% Free to Minimal*
- Pagers
- Text Message Enabled Cellular Phones
- FAX
- Some Amateur and GMRS Frequencies
 - ◆ Rebroadcasts of NOAA Weather Radio Alerts
 - ◆ SKYWARN Nets



4. When Can I Expect To Hear A Bergen-Passaic County SKYWARN Net?

- When a Severe Weather Alert has been transmitted on NOAA Weather Radio, that includes Bergen and/or Passaic Counties in its coverage
 - ◆ *Especially During Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Warnings*
- When the NWS Upton NY requests information from SKYWARN Spotters in the general Bergen and/or Passaic County areas.
- When There Is A Potential For Developing Severe Weather
 - ◆ *One or more SKYWARN Coordinators are usually monitoring the W2PQG 2 Meter Repeater during Severe Weather Watches. If you observe developing NWS defined Severe Weather, even if SKYWARN has not been activated, they will take your report and forward it to the NWS*



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Thank You For Your Interest In
The Bergen and Passaic Counties

SKYWARN Program

www.bergenskywarn.org