

Manitoba ARES CANWARN Program

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Overview

- Composition
- Activation
- Net Operation
- CANWARN Controllers
- VE4WWO
- Alert Conditions
- Summer Report Focus
- Winter Report Focus
- District Representatives
- Out of season & Unusual Situations

Composition

- Certified Amateur Operators
- Registered Spotters
- Capable of 2m communication to Winnipeg

> 150 Spotters in \geq 40 communities

Generally 1 Spotter Training Session/year

Activation

Can be any of:

- Severe Weather Forecaster PASPC
- On-Call CANWARN Net Controller
- CANWARN District Representative

Seasonal Activations:

2012 **8 Nets**

2011 **6 Nets**

2010 **11 Nets**

2009 **7 Nets**

2008 **8 Nets**

2007 **15 Nets** - Including F-5 Tornado in Elie

2006 **18 Nets**

Net Operation

- Closed, directed 2m Net
- VE4WWO is Net Control Station
- Callsigns phonetically, with location
- May or may not call for check-ins (depends on Alert condition, NCS judgment)
- ARES Net Controller usually* on call 0930-2130h daily week before Victoria Day to week after Labor Day
- PASPC staff to contact WPGARES Duty Coordinator if Net req'd between Labor Day & Victoria Day

Net Operation con't

Loss of communications:

- Follow local plan, or
- Report by phone using numbers provided at Spotter Training
- Or try HF: 40 m
80m

Public Number is 1-800-239-0484

CANWARN Controllers

- On-Call Controller has numeric pager & PASPC parking pass
- Historically ~ 15 Winnipeg & 1 Portage ARES members have covered WWO
- 34 weeks on-call (17 wks DAY, 17 wks EVE)
- Net controllers **must** be ARES members
 - Display ARES photo ID when on duty at VE4WWO
 - Can't utilize strangers in a gov't office, leadership must know their operators
 - Security Clearances required as of 2007

CANWARN Controllers con't

- Need to expand pool of WWO Controllers, especially for **DAY** Shift 0930-1730h
- Experienced WWO Controllers available to "Elmer" or mentor new Controllers
 - WPGARES Duty Coordinator always available

VE4WWO Equipment

VHF & HF Station:

- TM-261, DCI Filter & PS to ¼ Wave Omni
- FT-1500, DCI Filter, PS & Ant Switch to:
 - Single Bay Omni on the roof
 - 3 element beam pointing at CDN
- IC-718 & PS to Dipole on roof





Kent, VE4KEH

Bob, VE4MAQ

Alert Conditions

- Green
- **Yellow**
- Red

Green Alert

Severe Weather Watch

- **Will** take Spotter check-ins
- May allow non-net traffic during quiet periods

Yellow Alert

Severe Weather Warning or Tornado Watch

No check-ins, only stations with reports of:

- Hail
- Damaging Winds
- Wall Clouds
- Funnel Clouds
- Tornadoes
- Unusual Wx Events
 - Strange cloud formations
 - Roll clouds

Red Alert

Tornado Warning

No check-ins, only reports of:

- Wall Clouds
- Funnel Clouds
- TORNADOS

Local ARES group should be on alert
(phone tree or radio alerts)

Summer Reports

Summer reports should focus on:

- **Any** tornadic event or funnel cloud
- Rotating wall cloud
- Shelf Cloud
- Hail > 20mm (5 cent piece)
- Winds > 90 Km/h
- Rain > 50mm/h or > 75 mm 2-3 hrs
 - Visibility reduced to less than ½ Km

Report by telephone if no Net in progress

Summer Reports con't

Be mindful that the Net Controller will be filling out a **Severe Wx Event Log** and needs to record:

- Date, Time, Callsign, Location
- Specific info depending on what's being reported
 - Tornado 5 items
 - Hail 5 items
 - Wind 4 items
 - Rain 4 items

SEVERE WEATHER EVENT LOG - SUMMER



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DATE: _____ TIME: _____ (MDT, CST, CDT)

NAME OF CALLER: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

WATCHER
 MEDIA
 CANWARN
 OTHER

LOCATION OF EVENT: _____

TIME OF EVENT: _____

INFORMATION

TORNADO/FUNNEL CLOUD/SPINNING CLOUDS (CIRCLE)

FUNNEL TOUCHING GROUND? YES NO

DIRECTION/SPEED OF MOTION? _____

SIZE/SHAPE? _____ DURATION? _____

REMARKS/DAMAGE? _____

TORNADO

HAIL SIZE? (DIAMETER) _____ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

(PEA, MARBLE, GRAPE, WALNUT, GOLFBALL, ETC.)

AMOUNT? _____ DURATION? _____

REMARKS? _____

HAIL

WIND SPEED? _____ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

DIRECTION? _____ DURATION? _____

REMARKS/DAMAGE? _____

WIND

RAIN AMOUNT? _____ ESTIMATED/MEASURED?

DURATION? _____

REMARKS/FLOODING? _____

RAIN

REPORTED TO? _____

OVER FOR MORE QUESTIONS, IF NECESSARY

Winter Reports

Winter reports should focus on:

- Low Visibility (< 1 km Snow, < ½ km Fog)
- Freezing Rain or Freezing Drizzle or Ice Pellets
- Snowfall accumulations > 5 cm
- Rain that changes to Snow or Freezing Rain
- Please pass on reports of power outages or dangerous road conditions

Generally no CANWARN Net, report by telephone

Consider MMWX Net Participation

District Representatives

- **BRANDON**

Dan Connors, Charlie Bailey

- **DAUPHIN**

Ray Pike, Tony Duchscherer,
Jack Adams

- **INTERLAKE**

Jim McKinley, Jim Townsend

- **SELKIRK**

Ron Williscroft, Brad Bowman

- **PORTAGE**

Bill Simm, Glen Marchand

- **NORTH EASTMAN**

Dave Place, Ed Evanko

- **PINAWA**

Garry Stokes, Grant Delaney

- **SOUTH-CENTRAL**

Gord Snarr, Jake Dyck,
Orlando Penner

- **WINNIPEG**

Jeff Dovyak, Glen Napady,
Norman Coull

District Repeaters

- List provided at
Spotter Training

“Out of Season” & Unusual Conditions

PASPC WPM & Wx Centre shift staff have contact info for:

- WPGARES Duty Coordinator
- CANWARN Spotters by region/district

WPM has contact info for:

- MMWX Net Manager & MEPN Manager

Summary

>150 Spotters \geq 40 communities

VHF Operation with HF back-up

3 Activation scenarios

On-call Net Controller for VE4WWO

avail 12 h daily Victoria Day to Labor Day

Net Controllers shortage is now mission critical

3 Alert Conditions, don't always ask for check-ins

Spotters Should Report by telephone if no Net

On-Line Resources

Environment Canada's Weatheroffice site
www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca

Severe Weather Watcher Handbook
not currently available on-line

NOAA Spotter Reference Guide:

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/images/dmx/Spotter%20Reference%20Guide.pdf>

Significant Wx Discussion "FOCN45"

<http://kamala.cod.edu/Canada/latest.focn45.CWWG.html>

Winnipeg ARES

www.winnipegares.ca