



# (County Name) COUNTY A.R.E.S. EMERGENCY NET PREAMBLE for SEVERE WEATHER NETs



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**NOTE TO NET CONTROL STATION:** *Items in red/italics are notes to you, do not read over the air!*

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## **THIS PAGE CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE NET CONTROL STATION:**

- **STAND-BY STATUS** is used when Severe Weather is possible in (County Name) County or surrounding areas, and a weather warning HAS NOT BEEN issued.
- **ACTIVE STATUS** is used once a weather warning is issued for (County Name) County. (If a formal net becomes necessary to handle traffic, place the net in ACTIVE STATUS even if a warning has not been issued.)

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**Sample Severe Weather Bulletin from NWS.** Share the What, When & Where of the warning. For **Severe Weather Statements** (Watch/Warning) and the like, read only the portions **NOT** in red/italics! (There is no need to read, "This is a dangerous storm . . .")

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*(BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED  
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BIRMINGHAM AL  
500 PM CST SAT JAN 3 2009)*

- THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BIRMINGHAM HAS ISSUED A
  - SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING FOR...
  - ELMORE COUNTY IN EAST CENTRAL ALABAMA...
  - UNTIL 530 PM CST
- AT 456 PM CST...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INDICATED A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CAPABLE OF PRODUCING PENNY SIZE HAIL. THIS STORM WAS LOCATED NEAR DEXTER...OR NEAR WETUMPKA...AND MOVING NORTHEAST AT 25 MPH.
- THE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WILL BE NEAR...
  - SANTUCK AND DEXTER BY 505 PM CST...
  - ECLECTIC BY 5:15 PM CST...

*(THIS IS A DANGEROUS STORM. IF YOU ARE IN ITS PATH...PREPARE)*

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**THE FUNCTION OF YOUR NET RESEMBLES THAT OF AN EMERGENCY CALL CENTER. PLEASE DO THE BEST THAT YOU CAN TO SEE THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS ON YOUR NET GO AS SMOOTHLY AS IS POSSIBLE FOR THE SITUATION AT HAND. ANY AND ALL LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS THAT BREAK YOUR NET MAY HAVE INVALUABLE INFORMATION TO BRING TO THE NET AND TO THE SERVED AGENCIES WHICH YOU MAY BE ASSISTING. Do NOT DISCOUNT THAT INFORMATION WHICH MAY SEEM TRIVIAL – IT COULD TURN OUT TO BE VITAL INFORMATION THAT MAY SAVE LIVES AND/OR PROPERTY.**



# (County Name) COUNTY A.R.E.S. EMERGENCY NET PREAMBLE for SEVERE WEATHER NETs



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## I. STAND-BY STATUS - *(Severe Weather is possible in the area)*

Attention All Stations. This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_ activating the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net into **STAND-BY STATUS**. Severe weather is possible within the *(County Name)* County area. Amateurs should watch for signs of severe weather, hail 1/2 inch or greater, winds 50mph or greater, tornados, funnel clouds or flooding, and report them to the Net Control Station. Normal communications may continue on this frequency. Please allow long pauses between transmissions such that stations with traffic for this net may quickly contact the Net Control Station. In the case of repeater failure, this net will move to *(Alternate Frequency, PL Tone, etc.)*.

This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station.

- Is there an Alternate Net Control Operator on frequency? *(Establish one if possible! Your station may be damaged or lose power.)*
- Are there any SERVED AGENCIES on frequency?
- Are there any LIAISON STATIONS to Other Nets or the National Weather Service?
- Are there any Stations with Emergency or Priority traffic?
- Are there any Stations with Severe Weather Reports?
- Are there any Stations with Damage Reports?

*(Net Control: Do the following at your discretion.)*

- I will now take check-ins to the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net. Please give your call sign, slowly using ITU Standard Phonetics; also give your Name and Location. I will begin with mobile or portable stations and then All other stations.

The *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net is in **STAND-BY STATUS**. Normal communications may continue on this frequency. Please allow long pauses between transmissions such that stations with traffic for this net may quickly contact the Net Control Station.

This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station. *(Treat STAND-BY STATUS the same as normal, everyday operation. If needed, kindly remind stations to leave pauses for net traffic.)*

*[CONTINUITY ANNOUNCEMENT - (Do every Ten (10) minutes or as needed.)]*

Attention All Stations. This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station for the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net. This net is in **STAND-BY STATUS**. Severe weather is possible within the repeater coverage area. Amateurs should watch for signs of severe weather, hail 1/2 inch or greater, winds 50mph or greater, tornados, funnel clouds or flooding, and report them to the Net Control Station.

Normal communications may continue on this frequency. Please allow long pauses between transmissions such that stations with traffic for this net may quickly contact the Net Control Station.

*[Every 2nd or 3rd time you read the above announcement (20-30 minutes), go through the above list of stations for possible check-ins: Alternate Net Control, Liaison Stations, Emergency or Priority traffic, and weather or damage reports.]* In the case of repeater failure, this net will move to *(Alternate Frequency, PL Tone, etc.)*.



*(County Name)* **COUNTY A.R.E.S.**  
**EMERGENCY NET PREAMBLE for SEVERE WEATHER NETs**



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**II. ACTIVE STATUS** - *(Severe Weather is imminent or occurring in (County Name) County)*

Attention All Stations. This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_ now placing the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net into **ACTIVE STATUS**. Severe Weather is imminent or occurring in *(County Name)* County. *(State reason for activation: see Sample Severe Weather Bulletins from NWS on page 1.)* The Net Control Station will direct all traffic on this net. ONLY stations having Severe Weather Reports which meet these criteria should **BREAK** this net.

- Tornados on the ground
  - Funnel Clouds
  - Rotating Wall Clouds
  - Hail ½ inch or greater in diameter
  - Winds 50 MPH or greater
  - Flooding and Storm Damage
- Are there any stations with Emergency or Priority traffic?
  - Are there any stations with Severe Weather reports?
  - Are there any stations with Damage reports?

This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station. *(Regularly check for these conditions)*

*(Remain in **ACTIVE STATUS** only as long as is necessary. This usually means there is an active, current WARNING for (County Name) County, or damage reports, etc. The situational awareness of the Net Control operator is critical! If shelters are being opened for survivors, an ACTIVE net will probably be needed. Return the net to **STAND-BY STATUS** and/or close the net as soon as practical.)*

*[CONTINUITY ANNOUNCEMENT - (Do every Ten (10) minutes or as needed.)]*

Attention All Stations. This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station for the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net. This net is in **ACTIVE STATUS**. Severe weather is imminent or occurring in *(County Name)* County. *(State reason for activation: see Sample Severe Weather Bulletins from NWS on page 1.)* The Net Control Station will direct all traffic on this net. In the case of repeater failure, this net will move to *(Alternate Frequency, PL Tone, etc.)*.

- Are there any stations with Emergency or Priority traffic?
- Are there any stations with Severe Weather reports?
- Are there any stations with Damage reports?

*(Every 2nd or 3rd time you read the above announcement (20-30 minutes), include the following)*

ONLY stations having Severe Weather Reports which meet these criteria should **BREAK** this net.

- Tornados on the ground
- Funnel Clouds
- Rotating Wall Clouds
- Hail ½ inch or greater in diameter
- Winds 50 MPH or greater
- Flooding and Storm Damage



*(County Name)* COUNTY A.R.E.S.  
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iii. **SECURING THE NET** - *(Only secure an active net after the threat of severe weather has passed and there is no more need for a formal net to handle emergency/priority traffic, damage reports, and the like.)*

**Attention All Stations.** This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_, Net Control Station for the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net closing this Net. The threat of severe weather has passed and there is no more need for a formal net at this time.

I would like to thank all stations for their participation in this net. Your help is greatly appreciated.

*(You may place Club/Net specific announcements in this area. Please refer to the sample below.)*

- The *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net meets each Tuesday night on *(Frequency)* MHz at *(Time)* PM.
- The *(County Name)* County Amateur Radio Club meets *(Meeting Schedule/Frequency, Day of week, Time, etc.)*

More information about the *(County Name)* County Amateur Radio Club can be found on our website, *(Web URL)*.

If you have any questions, comments or would like to serve as a Net Control Station for the *(County Name)* County A.R.E.S. Net please contact the Net Manager, *(NM's Name, Call sign, Contact Method – Email, Postal, Cell, Landline, etc.)*.

I now return this frequency to normal use. This is *(Call sign)* \_\_\_\_\_ clear.

*[Please maintain a log of stations checking in as well as weather and damage reports passed and as soon as is practical; please send a copy of your log to your Net Manager, (NM's Name, Call sign, Contact Method – Email, Postal, Cell, Landline, etc.)]*

*(The Birmingham NWS phone numbers: 1 (800) 856-0758 or 1 (205) 664-3010.)*