

# Reporting Procedures

## TELE System of Reporting

- T = Time of Observation
- E = Effect (Hail, Winds, Etc.)
- L = Location
- E = Estimated or Measured

A sample report would be:

At 4:35 pm we had pea size hail, winds of about 40 miles per hour, with moderate cloud-to-ground lightning. I am 2 miles southeast of downtown Wakeman, and observations are estimated.

## ***Report Limitations***

To limit reports to weather conditions of significant nature only, and to avoid the 'Sunshine' reports; only the following conditions should be reported:

- FUNNEL CLOUD ALOFT
- TORNADO TOUCHDOWN (including direction and estimated speed of travel, if possible)
- WALL CLOUD / ROTATING WALL CLOUD (not Roll Cloud)
- CLOUD ROTATION (Sustained)
- DAMAGING WINDS (above 58 mph)
- LARGE HAIL (1/2 inch or larger)
- FLOODING IN PROGRESS
- UNUSUALLY HEAVY CLOUD-TO-GROUND LIGHTNING (CG)
- ANY DAMAGE FROM THE ABOVE

# ***SPOTTER'S AIDS***

## **HAIL - Estimating Size**

- Pea Size = 1/4 inch
- Dime Size = 1/2 inch
- Nickel Size = 3/4 inch
- Quarter Size = 1 inch
- Golfball Size = 1-3/4 inch

## **WINDSPEED - Estimating**

- 22 -31 mph - Large branches in motion
- 32 - 38 mph - Whole tree in motion
- 39 - 54 mph - Twigs break off trees
- 55 - 72 mph - Shallow trees uprooted
- 73 - 112 mph - Scattered structural damage

## **RAINFALL - Estimating Rates**

NOTE: The NWS used to have a system to estimate rainfall. However, it is impossible to determine rainfall by the human eye. We ask that you report rainfall by the following criteria:

- Measured rainfall - with a rain gage and stopwatch - report would be "1/2 inch of rain in 20 minutes."
- Flooding in progress

## ***GENERAL OHIO TORNADO INFORMATION***

Tornadoes usually cone from the southwest and rotate counter-clockwise. They form on the back, or trailing edge, of a thunderstorm. The best position to see a tornado is to the southwest of the storm. Most Ohio tornadoes occur from April to July between 2 PM and 10 PM but keep in mind that they may occur anytime of the year, day or night.