



**the Security Institute**

[www.the-security-institute.org](http://www.the-security-institute.org)



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For Information  
TSI  
(712) 274-6463  
4647 Stone Ave, Sioux City  
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### When:

Thursday, April 12th, 2011

### Time:

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

### Check in:

6:30 pm

### Where:

Cargill Auditorium / D103  
Parking Lot #4 / Door 14  
Seating is Limited

Western Iowa Tech  
Community College  
PO Box 5199  
Sioux City, IA. 51102  
[www.witcc.edu](http://www.witcc.edu)



**Free Training**

# Severe Weather Spotter

## National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office, Sioux Falls, SD

Severe Weather!!! Its effects are felt by many of us during our lifetimes. To obtain critical weather information, the National Weather Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and cooperating organizations, have established SKYWARN Spotter Networks. Although SKYWARN spotters are essential information sources for all types of weather hazards, your largest responsibility as a SKYWARN spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods, and over 900 tornadoes occur across the United States. During the past 10 years, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods have killed nearly 2,300 people in the United States and injured thousands of others. Because of storm spotter reports, such as those you provided, plus the addition of new technology and improved warning dissemination, this death toll was reduced by more than 800 from the previous 10 years. While the figures still appear staggering, several thousand lives have been saved by reports from storm spotters. Your information, coupled with Doppler radar, satellite, and other data, has enabled the National Weather Service to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods. This guide has been designed to assist you in the important task of observing and reporting hazardous weather and protecting yourself during your encounters with hostile weather situations. I am pleased that you are part of the ranks of those who form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that your efforts have given a community the precious gift of time... seconds and minutes that can save lives.

Members of the public who want to protect lives and property are encouraged to attend, as are volunteer police, fire, emergency medical, emergency management, and construction personnel.

The training will cover:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety