

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock
County Administrator

Beth Gabor Manager of Public Affairs 625 Court Street, Room 204 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8042 • FAX (530) 666-8193 www.yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2014

Contact: Beth Gabor, Manager of Public Affairs (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Weather Spotter Training April 30

(Your spotter reports can help Yolo County prepare when severe weather occurs!)

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services and the National Weather Service want to train you to become a weather spotter on Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Marsh Hall at Esparto High School, located at 17121 Yolo Avenue in Esparto.

Storm spotters play a valuable role in the severe weather warning process. The National Weather Service relies on visual observations from spotters to provide critical information that would otherwise not be available to forecasters. Spotter reports are combined with data from doppler radar and satellite pictures to provide a complete understanding of severe storms and their impact on the public.

During the free training, sponsored by the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services, future weather spotters will learn:

- How to observe, recognize and report severe weather;
- What severe weather types are experienced in the Yolo County area;
- How to volunteer for Project SKYARMTM to help keep local communities safe;
- Severe weather safety tips; and
- Operations of the National Weather Service

Spotter guides, cloud charts and severe weather pamphlets will be provided to potential new weather spotters, as well as applications to become a volunteer weather spotter. Once an application is received, a spotter number I assigned and an information packet sent.

There will also be opportunity during the training to discuss and join the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network – a unique, non-profit, community-based network of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation (rain, hail and snow) across the U.S.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Eric Kurth (eric.kurth@noaa.gov) with the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Sacramento.