



Phillip Hamerski/Register-News

National Weather Service Forecaster Mike York speaks to members of Jefferson County about reporting severe weather. The Mt. Vernon Outland Airport hosted a storm-spotter class offered by the National Weather Service Tuesday to train people on the proper way to report severe weather.

Spotter class promotes safety

National Weather Service hosts training course at airport

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MT. VERNON — The National Weather Service conducted a storm-spotters class Tuesday hosted at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

The class has been offered for over 50 years.

The National Weather Service is a national organization with more than a hundred offices across the nation.

The National Weather Service of-

fice that covers Jefferson County is out of Paducah.

Mike York, forecaster for the National Weather Service, spoke to the audience about numerous severe weather tips and how to spot them.

"I want to help them get a level of understanding about severe weather," York said. "The class was orchestrated to contribute to the purpose of the NWS and that's to keep people safe."

York spoke about many topics including how thunderstorms form and how to measure wind speeds.

He also spoke on measuring hail size and most importantly, how to go about reporting these kinds of severe weather if ever anyone came across them.

"We just want to make them more prepared for tornadoes and make everyone safer," York said.

People who attended the class are considered trained storm spotters.

"Technology has limitations, that's why we need spotters," York explained. "If we issue a warning that has spotter reports in it, people are more likely to believe it."

York urges people to call the National Weather Service hotline immediately if you see signs of severe weather.

The National Weather Service hotline is 1-800-533-7189. You can also make online reports on the NWS website or on its Facebook or Twitter pages.

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