



## Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 3040

Date: August 21, 2009

# County Offers Free SKYWARN™ Weather Spotter Classes

[Charleston County Government's](#) Emergency Management Department is offering free classes in September for citizens who want to help warn officials about local weather changes.

Charleston County Government's Emergency Management Department is offering free classes for citizens who want to help warn officials about local weather changes.

[SKYWARN™](#) is a voluntary program developed by the [National Weather Service \(NWS\)](#). The NWS needs real-time reports of hail size, wind damage, flash flooding, heavy rain and tornadoes in order to effectively warn the public. SKYWARN™ volunteers serve as storm spotters for the NWS and local emergency management programs. Volunteers serve as the eyes and ears for the whole community.

Anyone interested in becoming a SKYWARN™ weather spotter can attend one of the NWS basic and/or advanced weather spotter training classes, which are hosted by Charleston County Government. Classes are free and last approximately two hours.

The Basic Weather Spotter Class is required to become a certified NWS SKYWARN™ weather spotter and to take the Advanced Weather Spotter Class. The advanced class provides additional information and training to those interested in learning more than is provided in the basic class.

### **Basic Weather Spotter Class** (required in order to take the advanced class):

Date: Thursday, Sept. 10

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Location: Charleston County Public Service Building  
Third Floor Room 339 (Emergency Operations Center)  
4045 Bridgeview Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405

### **Advanced Weather Spotter Class:**

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 29

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Location: Charleston County Public Service Building  
Third Floor Room 339 (Emergency Operations Center)  
4045 Bridgeview Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405

To register for the basic and/or advanced classes, contact James Tarter, Training Coordinator for the Charleston County Emergency Management Department, by phone at (843) 202-7405 or by e-mail at [jtarter@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:jtarter@charlestoncounty.org).

