



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

9200 White Lake Rd  
White Lake, MI 48386

February 14, 1996

Dear Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinators,

A couple conversations recently took place with a few Amateur Emergency Coordinators, that has prompted me to write this letter to you. In a few cases, it appears to me as though there is a lack of sharing information between the Emergency Manager and yourself.

For your information, here are a few items of interest that have occurred over the past few months...

- \* Last August, a district EC meeting was held in our office to discuss the future of six meters. Please contact your district EC for further details and decisions that were made.
- \* We would like to have one point of contact with each county, to discuss preparedness, set up spotter training, county correspondence etc. This point of contact will normally be the Emergency Manager in each county, **unless we are told differently**. All Spotter and Safety Training talks have already been set up for this spring. In most cases, this was done through the Emergency Manager.
- \* Several pieces of correspondence has been sent to the Emergency Managers. I am counting on them to share appropriate pieces of information with you.
- \* Through the Emergency Managers, we set up (8) 4-season spotter talks last November and December. Some were very well attended, while one was attended by no one.
- \* A letter to each Emergency Manager was sent out in the Fall of 1995 outlining some changes to the spotter program that we would like to see in the coming year.
- \* Two Emergency Preparedness / Media Workshops were held in September to discuss Doppler Radar and Weather Service Products and Services. We invited all Emergency Managers, and asked them to invite their Emergency Coordinators. Some of the suggestions that came out of these meetings were implemented into our operations. **ONE OF THESE CHANGES WILL AFFECT SPOTTER ACTIVATION POTENTIAL.** Please see your Emergency Manager for further information.



- \* We have added over 1200 spotters on a spotters newsletter mailing list. OUR MAILING LIST IS NOT COMPLETE. We will gather additional names and addresses at our upcoming spotter and safety training talks. All the County EC's have been added and should be getting our spring newsletter (our second issuance). This spotter newsletter discusses a variety of topics. We also developed a Media Newsletter to all of our Radio, TV, and Newsprint.
- \* NWS Amateur Liaison Training is being conducted on February 17th. This will entail WSR-88D training for those Amateurs that come into our office during times of potential severe weather. The objective is to give them more knowledge on WSR-88D products, so that they will be able to pass along additional information to the spotters in the field.
- \* I discussed current NWS Modernization across Southeast Michigan, along with other items of interest at the December District 2 (N and S) meeting in Plymouth.
- \* I had hoped to set up a special severe weather drill with District 2 (N and S) Counties on April 4th (in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week). This drill would enlist the help of the Amateur Radio Community and spotters. As of today, four out of the six counties have indicated they would participate. I have not heard from two counties, despite presenting the idea at the District 2 meeting, and sending out several letters of correspondence asking for their cooperation.
- \* We are continuing to expand our efforts to participate in school science festivals and career days, and to become more involved in displays and booths. We have initiated visits to media on a monthly basis.
- \* Is a 17 county-wide meeting needed? That is for you to decide. We have tried very hard to keep all counties informed of our progress over the past year. If you do feel there is a need for a meeting, we would be happy to host it here.

These are just a few of the areas we have been working on to improve our services to you and the communities that you serve. We remain committed to providing you with high quality weather services.

It is very important to keep the lines of communications open. Please feel free to give me a call at (810) 625-3309 #726 if you wish to discuss any items in detail.

Thank you very much for your time. We hope to see you this spring at our spotter and safety training talks.

Sincerely,

*Gary G. Campbell*

Gary G. Campbell  
Warning Coordination Meteorologist

cc County Emergency Managers