



# Elm Grove Fire Department

13600 Juneau Blvd ■ Elm Grove, WI 53122

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The following is an overview of the National Weather Service's StormReady program and how it benefits the Village and our residents. The StormReady Program is a proactive initiative aimed at helping communities prepare for and mitigate the impacts of severe weather events.

At its core, the StormReady Program provides communities with guidelines and criteria to enhance their readiness and resilience in the face of severe weather, including thunderstorms, tornadoes, floods, and hurricanes. By meeting certain criteria set by the National Weather Service, communities can better protect their residents, infrastructure, and economy from the adverse effects of severe weather events.

Our village's participation in the Storm Ready Program has yielded several notable benefits:

1. **Enhanced Public Safety:** Through the implementation of the Storm Ready guidelines, our village has established effective procedures for disseminating severe weather warnings and alerts to residents. In addition to the tornado sirens, the Fire Department Facebook page is used to disseminate severe weather watches and warnings to residents. This ensures that our citizens receive timely and accurate information, empowering them to take necessary precautions and seek shelter during severe weather events, ultimately reducing the risk of injury or loss of life.
2. **Improved Emergency Response:** By adhering to the Storm Ready criteria, our village has strengthened its emergency preparedness and response capabilities. We have established emergency operations center procedures, implemented comprehensive emergency plans, and trained personnel to effectively coordinate response efforts during severe weather events. This has enabled us to respond swiftly and efficiently, minimizing disruption to essential services and facilitating the timely allocation of resources where needed. In the near future our first responders will also be able to receive weather alerts through our dispatching system, enabling them to prepare for possible impacts to the village and improve response times.

3. **Decision Support Services:** As an accredited StormReady community we have access to direct communication with National Weather Service Meteorologists. This provides village staff and special event organizers the ability to get real time weather forecasts for specific events/locations. This type of “mission specific” support is invaluable when tasked with making difficult weather-dependent decisions.
4. **Community Resilience:** Participation in the Storm Ready Program has bolstered our village's resilience to severe weather events. By proactively preparing for such events, we have reduced their impact on our community and improved our ability to recover quickly in their aftermath. This resilience not only safeguards the well-being of our residents but also ensures the long-term sustainability and viability of our village.
5. **Recognition and Accreditation:** As a result of our commitment to the Storm Ready Program, our village has earned official recognition and accreditation from the National Weather Service. This recognition underscores our dedication to public safety and emergency preparedness, enhancing our reputation as a safe and resilient community.

The Storm Ready Program brings many benefits to the village’s residents and businesses, and we hope to continue building on this vital initiative. By doing so, we can further strengthen our community's resilience to severe weather events, ensuring the safety and well-being of our citizens for years to come.

