

## Skywarn Training

The National Weather Service Northern Indiana office (IWX) will conduct its own storm spotter class in Fort Wayne October 22. The class will begin at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Public Safety Academy, 7602 Patriot Crossing. That's behind the Walmart and Menards stores, off Lafayette Street, south of Tillman Road.

IWX will present the spotter class in nine locations around its coverage area this autumn. There are several reasons for this. Primarily, IWX needed to spread out its spotter class schedule. New National Weather Service (NWS) programs have put larger demands on meteorologists' time, making it infeasible to teach all spotter classes in the spring.

In addition, IWX needs spotter reports year-round. Autumn classes like the one in Fort Wayne October 22 will cover late season severe weather as well as winter weather types and reporting methods. Remember that climatology shows that while our area receives most of its severe weather in the spring, we have a second severe season in the fall. For example, a tornado did F4 damage in Van Wert November 10, 2002.

Even if you attended the ARES spotter class last spring, I recommend attending this October class. It will give you a chance to see what changes IWX has made to its curriculum, refresh your knowledge for the autumn severe weather season, and prepare you to be more helpful during the winter weather season. I plan to attend and hope to see you there. [Register for the event online](#), so the NWS will know how many people to expect.

Best regards,

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