

Thunderstorm Damage Threat Categories



The National Weather Service issues Severe Thunderstorm Warnings (SVR) when a severe storm is happening or imminent, letting the public know it's time to take action to stay safe (such as taking shelter).

These warnings are Impact-Based, focusing on the expected storm impacts, allowing for more precise communication and recommended actions.

Now, to further improve communication, NWS will be including Damage Threat Categories to all SVRs.

Considerable / Destructive Tags

Thunderstorm Damage Threat (tag category)	Wind	Hail diameter	WEA?
Base (no tag; default)	58 mph (60 mph will appear in the warning)	1.00 inch (U.S. quarter)	NO
Considerable	70 mph	1.75 inch (golfball)	NO
Destructive	80 mph	2.75 inch (baseball)	YES

- The highest of the categories will be invoked from either a qualifying wind or hail value, or both.
- Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) messages will be activated on mobile devices whenever a Severe Thunderstorm Warning with a 'Destructive' tag is issued or updated. For more information on WEAs, please visit weather.gov/wrn/wea.

