

NOUS41 KWBC 161340
PNSWSH

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...SERVICE CHANGE NOTICE 01-25
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
940 AM EDT WED MAY 16 2001

TO: FAMILY OF SERVICES /FOS/ SUBSCRIBERS
NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE /NWS/ SUBSCRIBERS
OTHER NWS PARTNERS...USERS AND EMPLOYEES

FROM: JAMES E. LEE
CHIEF...FIRE AND PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES BRANCH

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION AND TESTING OF THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGE
FROM JUNE 26 TO AUGUST 24 2001 AT THE BINGHAMTON NEW YORK AND AMARILLO
TEXAS WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES

EFFECTIVE TUESDAY JUNE 26 2001 AT 8 A.M. LOCAL TIME.../1200 COORDINATED
UNIVERSAL TIME /UTC/ IN THE EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME ZONE...1300 UTC IN THE
CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME ZONE/...THE WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES /WFOS/ IN
BINGHAMTON NEW YORK AND AMARILLO TEXAS WILL BEGIN SENDING TEST WATCH
COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES /WCN...SEE TABLE ONE/. WCN MESSAGES WILL
INDICATE THE STATUS INFORMATION /I.E...WHICH COUNTIES ARE IN OR ARE BEING
CLEARED FROM/ OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OR TORNADO WATCHES IN EACH OFFICE/S
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. THIS TEST WILL END AT 8 A.M. LOCAL TIME FRIDAY
AUGUST 24 2001.

TABLE 1: TEST WATCH MESSAGES WILL BE ISSUED UNDER THE FOLLOWING
COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIERS:

NWS OFFICE	WMO ID	AWIPS ID	PIL ID
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BINGHAMTON NY	WWUS61 KBGM	WCNBGM	ALBWCNBGM
AMARILLO TX	WWUS64 KAMA	WCNAMA	LBBWCNAMA

/END OF TABLE 1/

THE TEST WILL ALLOW THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TO ENSURE THAT THE
PROGRAMS WHICH CREATE THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION RUN CORRECTLY AND ALSO
ALLOW EXTERNAL CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS TO DETERMINE WAYS TO UTILIZE THE
WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES IN THEIR DISSEMINATION AND NOTIFICATION
SYSTEMS. EXISTING OPERATIONAL WATCH MESSAGES /I.E...SPECIAL WEATHER
STATEMENTS/ FROM EACH OFFICE WILL CONTINUE DURING THIS TEST PERIOD. THE
TEST WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED IF BACKUP
SUPPORT FROM ANOTHER NWS OFFICE IS REQUIRED DURING THIS TEST PERIOD.

THE WCN IS DESIGNED TO STREAMLINE WATCH INFORMATION FROM WEATHER FORECAST
OFFICES...SO IT WILL BE ISSUED TO CONVEY THE INITIAL ISSUANCE OF A
CONVECTIVE WATCH...WHEN COUNTIES ARE BEING CLEARED FROM THE WATCH OR WHEN
WATCHES ARE BEING CANCELED OR REPLACED BY NEW WATCHES.

THE WCN IS A SEGMENTED PRODUCT...WITH SEPARATE SEGMENTS FOR EACH ACTION
TAKEN DURING A WATCH. SEGMENTS SHOWING COUNTIES IN A WATCH WILL BE

SEPARATE FROM SEGMENTS DESCRIBING WHERE COUNTIES ARE BEING CLEARED FROM A WATCH. EACH SEGMENT WILL HAVE A CORRESPONDING VALID TIME EVENT CODE /VTEC/ STRING DESCRIBING THE ACTIONS TAKEN IN THAT SEGMENT.

FOR A SUITE OF EXAMPLES SHOWING THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES FOR EACH CONVECTIVE WATCH SITUATION...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/WCN/WCNEX.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/wcn/wcnex.pdf)

FOR A DESCRIPTION OF VTEC AND ITS ELEMENTS...SEVERAL PRODUCT EXAMPLES AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS...PLEASE SEE THE INTERNET SITE /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/OM/VTEC/VTEC.PDF](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/vtec/vtec.pdf)

CUSTOMERS WHO WISH TO RECEIVE THE WCN MESSAGES DURING THIS TEST PERIOD SHOULD ADD ONE OR BOTH OF THE COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIERS IN LISTED IN TABLE ONE TO YOUR APPROPRIATE DATABASES. FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED ONCE A DECISION IS MADE WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE THE WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION MESSAGES OPERATIONAL.

EXAMPLE:

WWUS61 KBGM 261830
WCNBGM

WATCH COUNTY NOTIFICATION FOR WATCH #1002
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BINGHAMTON NY
230 PM EDT SUN MAY 26 1998

NYC015-097-099-270100-
/CAN.KBGM.TO.A.1002.000000-270100/

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BINGHAMTON HAS CLEARED A PORTION OF TORNADO WATCH #1002. COUNTIES CLEARED FROM THE TORNADO WATCH INCLUDE:

IN NEW YORK:
SENECA
SCHUYLER
CHEMUNG
\$\$

NYC011-107-109-270100-
/CON.KBGM.TO.A.1002.000000-270100/

TORNADO WATCH #1002 REMAINS VALID UNTIL 900 PM EDT SUNDAY FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:

IN NEW YORK:
CAYUGA
TOMPKINS
TIOGA
\$\$

/END OF EXAMPLE/

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE
FOLLOWING METEOROLOGISTS-IN-CHARGE OR WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGISTS:

METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE

WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGIST

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NATIONAL SERVICE CHANGE NOTICES ARE ONLINE AT /USE LOWER CASE/:

[HTTPS://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/NOTIFICATION/ARCHIVE](https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive)

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