

## Board of County Commissioners

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## Carroll County Government

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Carroll County Emergency Management Partners with National Weather Service to Offer SKYWARN® - Basics Spotter Class

Westminster, Wednesday, January 27, 2016 – A SKYWARN® - Basics Spotter Class is being offered free of charge by the combined efforts of the local National Weather Service (NWS) Forecast Office and Carroll County Emergency Management.

The class will be taught by a National Weather Service meteorologist, and is designed to educate the public on weather threats in this area, as well as strengthen the ties between the NWS and the local community. The more spotters the NWS has, the faster vital ground truth information gets to the NWS forecasters who make the decisions to issue lifesaving weather warnings.

The Basics Spotter Class is a general overview of severe weather for the general public. Upon completion of the course, attendees will be registered in the SKYWARN® Spotter program and will receive a spotter code from the NWS within six weeks.

Training in the Basic Spotter Class includes:

- The basic organization of the National Weather Service
- The role and importance of the SKYWARN® Spotter
- NWS products and the Watch/Warning/Advisory system
- Thunderstorms and their associated threats
- How to report vital information to the NWS
- The role of amateur short-wave (HAM) radio in the Spotter Program

The Basics Spotter Class is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2016, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Carroll County Public Training Center, Auditorium, 50 Kate Wagner Road, Westminster MD 21157.

Pre-registration is required. To register, go to <http://carrollskywarnbasic.eventbrite.com>.

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## CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.