



# **SKYWARN Spotter Training**



Each year, the National Weather Service in Gaylord presents Severe Weather Spotter Safety Courses across Northern and Eastern Upper Michigan. The presentations are **FREE**, open to the public and usually last about 1 1/2 hours. There is no need to pre-register, just show up the night of the presentation. The program provides details about how to become a weather spotter and how to make a complete report to the National Weather Service.

Each person that attends is given severe weather handouts, an official laminated National Weather Service spotter card, and access to a special 800# specifically set aside for spotters in Northern Michigan. If you are interested in learning more about storm spotting and severe weather, you are encouraged to attend one of these presentations.

Included in this year's talk:

- **Thunderstorm ingredients**
- **Lightning and Hail development**
- **Lightning safety**
- **How do tornadoes form?**
- **National Weather Service warning criteria**
- **What to report**
- **Wind scales and how to make a good wind estimate**
- **Important cloud formations to look for**
- **Clouds and look-a-likes...things that can fool you**
- **CoCoRaHS – how to join this new spotter network**

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call the National Weather Service in Gaylord at (989) 731-3384.