

National Weather Service

Missoula Montana



When you observer or hear of weather conditions that meet or exceed the criteria listed below, telephone your report immediately to the National Weather Service office in Missoula. Our toll-free number is:

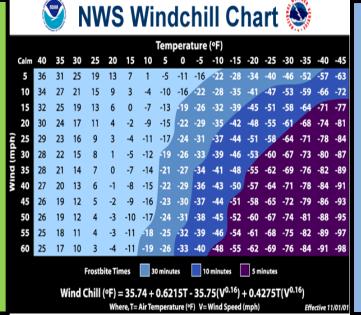
1-800-676-6975*

- High Wind: 40 mph or more sustained or gusts. (Please use table below to estimate wind speeds.)
- **Heavy Snow:** Snowfall rates of one inch or more per hour. 6 inches in 12 hours or 8 inches in 24 hours.
- Dangerous Wind Chills: Minus 10 degrees or colder (Please use table below to estimate wind chills)
- Freezing Rain: Falls as rain, freezes on contact
- Visibility: less than ¼ mile for any reason (e.g. dense fog, smoke)
- Heavy Rain: ½ of an inch or more per hour
- Flooding: any kind (e.g. rivers/streams abnormally high, water over roads, debris flows, ice jams)
- Damage, Injuries and/or Death that were weather related
- **Hail**: Any size (Please use table below to estimate hail size)
- > Tornado (cloud to ground), Funnel Cloud (not touching the ground) or Waterspout (over water)
- Unforecasted Weather

When calling in your report, please tell us briefly:

- Who you are and where you are calling from
- What you have seen (hail, high winds, heavy snow, etc.)
- Where you saw it (i.e. 4 miles West of Missoula)
- When you saw it (the time of your observation)
- What it was doing (movement, damage observed, trend i.e. snowfall is becoming heavier, etc.)

Wind Speed Estimates (MPH) 25-31 Large branches in motion 32-38 Whole trees in motion 39-46 Twigs break off tree; wind impedes walking 47-54 Slight structural damage; branches break 55-63 Trees uprooted; severe structural damage 64-74 Widespread damage 75+ Devastation





Hail Size Estimates

(Inches)

Pea.....1/4

Penny......3/4

Nickel.....7/8

Half Dollar.....1 1/4

Ping Pong......1 ½

Golf Ball......1 ¾

Tennis Ball......2 ½

Baseball......2 ¾

Softball......4 ½

Tea Cup......3

Egg.....2

Quarter.....1

^{*} Unlisted number, **ONLY** for weather reporting