

We have received many e-mails asking why when a certain county, such as Mercer or Greene for example, has a Severe Thunderstorm Warning or a Tornado Warning and Dayton Skywarn is not on the air. Here's why...

Like you, we are also volunteers. The Section Net Control Operators, and the Section Coordinators, are on call 24/7/365. It is the National Weather Service (NWS) that determines IF and WHEN the Section needs to be activated, not Dayton Skywarn. If NWS feels that there will be a widespread, section wide event, then we will be notified about 30-60 minutes ahead of the time we are needed and will respond to our operations center and notify everyone of the section activation on all section repeaters.

If there will be isolated instances of severe weather, limited to only 1 or 2 counties, then chances are NWS will NOT activate the entire section for those 1 or 2 counties. It is also entirely possible that some of our counties located in the far eastern part of the Dayton Section (Clark, Greene, Champaign, Logan and Hardin) will experience a severe event and the Columbus Section will be active and on the air; again, that decision is entirely up to the NWS, not Dayton Skywarn.

All counties within the Dayton Section should activate their county Skywarn net whenever severe weather is affecting your county. If you call for Dayton Skywarn and do not get a response, IMMEDIATELY contact NWS by using the 800 phone number and reporting your severe weather information; your report may be the one that will activate the entire section.

For those in Montgomery County, the Section Net Control Operators are also the county net control operators for severe events occurring in Montgomery County. The majority of the operators live in Englewood/Vandalia/Huber Heights area and may not be aware of a severe event occurring in say Centerville, Germantown or Kettering. If we are aware of a severe event occurring in Montgomery County, we will activate the county net and take your reports; if you don't hear us, call for Dayton Skywarn on the repeater; we are constantly monitoring the frequency and someone should come back to you. If you don't get a response, please call NWS using the 800 number to give your severe report.

Please do not hesitate to [contact me](#) with any questions you may have about the activation of the section net.

Louis Long, KB8TCK

Section Co-Coordinator, Dayton Skywarn