



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County to Host SKYWARN Class for Volunteer Weather Spotters

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – Dec. 3, 2013 – The Calvert County Department of Public Safety is hosting a SKYWARN® Weather Spotter Basics I class on Dec. 12 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Courthouse Square, 205 Main Street in Prince Frederick.

Established by the National Weather Service (NWS), SKYWARN® is a program that trains volunteers to provide timely, accurate reports of severe weather to the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Sterling, Va. SKYWARN® spotter volunteers identify and describe local severe storms.

This information, coupled with Doppler radar, satellite and other data, enables the weather service to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods. The Basics I class is the introductory course and prerequisite for all other courses offered. The course covers the following:

- The basic organization of the National Weather Service
- The role and importance for the SKYWARN® Spotter
- NWS products and the watch/warning/advisory system
- Thunderstorms and thunderstorm threats
- How to report vital information to the National Weather Service
- The role of amateur short-wave (HAM) radio in the spotter program

To register, contact the Calvert County Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, at 410-535-1600 or 301-855-1243, ext. 2638, or email oem@co.cal.md.us.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services. Like us on Facebook by searching for Calvert County Government, Calvert County, Maryland.