

NWS Skywarn Advanced Spotter Field Guide

Hail Size Estimates

Pea	25	Golfball	1.75
Penny	0.75	Tennis Ball	2.50
Quarter	1.00	Baseball	2.75
Half Dollar	1.25	Grapefruit	4.00

Table 1: Hail Size Estimations.

Wind Speed Estimates

Speed (MPH)	Effects
25-31	Large branches in motion; whistling in telephone wires
32-38	Whole trees in motion
39-54	Twigs break off of trees; wind impedes walking
55-72	Damage to chimneys and TV antennas; pushes over shallow rooted trees
73-112	Peels surface off roofs; windows broken; trailer houses overturned
113+	Roofs torn off houses; weak buildings and trailer houses destroyed; large trees uprooted

Table 2: Wind Speed Estimations.

Flash flooding should be reported, but the reporting criteria are not as well defined as with severe weather events. A flash flood is defined as a rapid rise in water usually during or after a period of heavy rain. Variations in soil type, terrain, and urbanization result in a wide variation in the amount of runoff which will occur during and after a given amount of rain. Consult your local NWS office regarding flash flood reporting procedures in your area.