



3rd Tuesday of the month Skywarn Zoom Call

March 17, 2026

Mark, KN4KRZ

NWS Columbia, Midlands Area, Acting Coordinator

Midlands Skywarn Key Net Controls

We want to welcome Michael Connolly, KX4TKO, to the group of Midlands Key Net Controls.

The current group of Midlands Key Net Controls are:

Tim Starr K4RHK

Dave Dahlberg AA4TE

Ron Jarosz KB1ND

James Lewis N4JWL

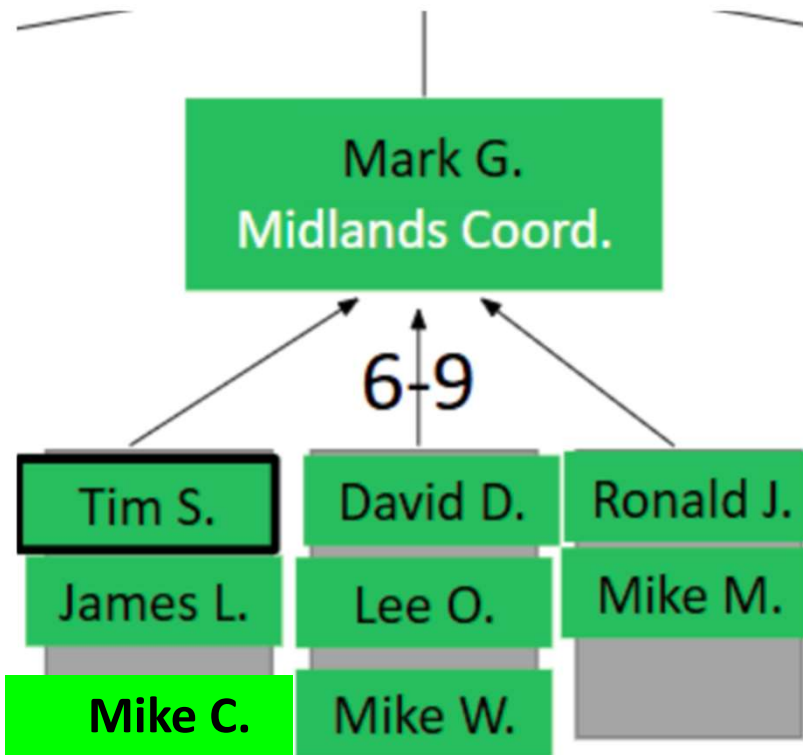
Lee Ott WA4CNL

Mike Majority N4VBV

Michael Connolly KX4TKO

Mike Wieber N4BQQ

Mark Goddard KN4KRZ.



Skywarn Key Net Controls

– What do they do?

Monitor for weather reports from Spotters (PACE*)

Sources:

Zello – “SC Midlands SKYWARN” Channel (Hams and non-Hams)

FleetTalk – W4FTK Linked repeater system (Amateur radio)

Skywarn designated repeaters (Amateur radio)

Submit Weather reports to NWS via NWS Chat 2.0

****PACE plan - For details, see page 2 of this document:***

<https://ares-sc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Methods-available-to-submit-reports-to-NWS-Columbia-Rev.-3.10.26-1.pdf>

Skywarn Training opportunities

Recent

Monday, March 10, 8:00 - **NWS Nashville** - Fire Weather Training

Tuesday, March 11 - **Horry County** - Advanced Skywarn Spotter Training - 2 PM - 4 PM

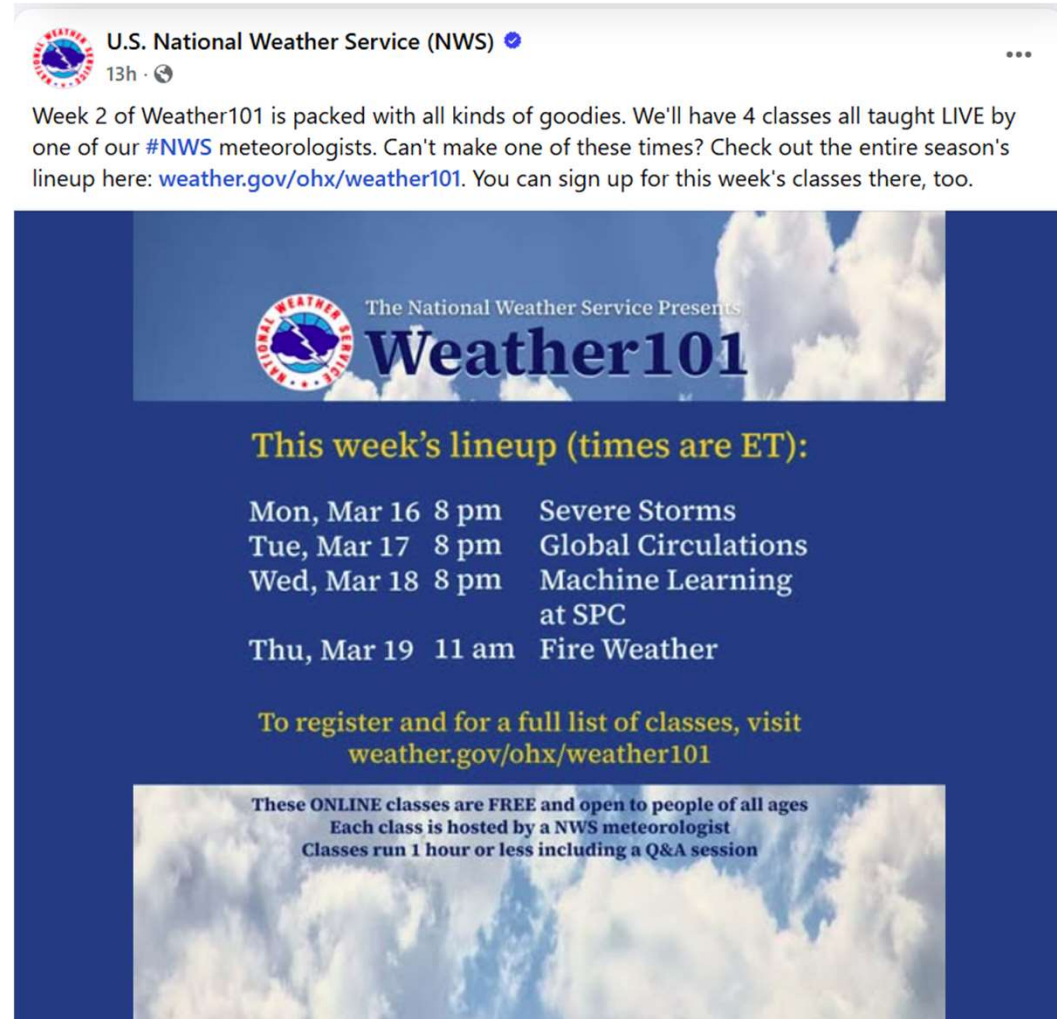
Monday, March 16, 8:00 – **NWS Nashville** – Severe Storms




Skywarn Training opportunities

Current – This week


***Weather 101 – Virtual 1-hour sessions,
Underway during March, April, and May***

Registration in advance is required.



 U.S. National Weather Service (NWS) 
13h · 

Week 2 of Weather101 is packed with all kinds of goodies. We'll have 4 classes all taught LIVE by one of our [#NWS](#) meteorologists. Can't make one of these times? Check out the entire season's lineup here: weather.gov/ohx/weather101. You can sign up for this week's classes there, too.

 The National Weather Service Presents
Weather101

This week's lineup (times are ET):

Mon, Mar 16	8 pm	Severe Storms
Tue, Mar 17	8 pm	Global Circulations
Wed, Mar 18	8 pm	Machine Learning at SPC
Thu, Mar 19	11 am	Fire Weather

**To register and for a full list of classes, visit
weather.gov/ohx/weather101**

**These ONLINE classes are FREE and open to people of all ages
Each class is hosted by a NWS meteorologist
Classes run 1 hour or less including a Q&A session**

Link to Weather 101: <https://www.weather.gov/ohx/weather101>

Date	Time (CT)	Class Title	Register
Tue, March 10	7 pm	Fire Weather	Click Here to Register
Wed, March 11	10 am	Severe Storms	Cancelled
Mon, March 16	7 pm	Severe Storms	Click Here to Register
Tue, March 17	7 pm	Global Circulations	Click Here to Register
Wed, March 18	7 pm	Machine Learning at the Storm Prediction Center	Click Here to Register
Thu, March 19	10 am	Fire Weather	Click Here to Register
Mon, March 23	10 am	Machine Learning at the Storm Prediction Center	Click Here to Register
Wed, March 25	10 am	The Basics	Click Here to Register
Wed, March 25	7 pm	Quasi-Linear Convective Systems	Click Here to Register
Thu, March 26	7 pm	Winter Weather	Click Here to Register
Fri, March 27	10 am	Satellites	Click Here to Register
Mon, March 30	7 pm	The Basics	Click Here to Register
Tue, March 31	10 am	Observations in 3-D	Click Here to Register

Link to Weather 101: <https://www.weather.gov/ohx/weather101>

Date	Time (CT)	Class Title	Register
Wed, Apr 1	10 am	Winter Weather	Click Here to Register
Fri, Apr 3	10 am	The Radar	Click Here to Register
Mon, Apr 6	7 pm	Satellites	Click Here to Register
Tue, Apr 7	10 am	Flash Flooding	Click Here to Register
Thu, Apr 9	10 am	NWS Storm Damage Surveys	Click Here to Register
Mon, Apr 13	7 pm	Flash Flooding	Click Here to Register
Tue, Apr 14	7 pm	Rip Currents	Click Here to Register
Wed, Apr 15	10 am	Global Circulations	Click Here to Register
Thu, Apr 16	10 am	Tsunamis	Click Here to Register
Mon, Apr 20	10 am	Upper Air Soundings	Click Here to Register
Tue, Apr 21	10 am	Monsoons	Click Here to Register
Wed, Apr 22	7 pm	NWS Storm Damage Surveys	Click Here to Register
Thu, Apr 23	7 pm	Tsunamis	Click Here to Register
Mon, Apr 27	7 pm	The Radar	Click Here to Register
Tue, Apr 28	7 pm	Lightning	Click Here to Register
Thu, Apr 30	10 am	River Ice	Click Here to Register

Date	Time (CT)	Class Title	Register
Mon, May 4	7 pm	Upper Air Soundings	Click Here to Register
Tue, May 5	7 pm	Monsoons	Click Here to Register
Wed, May 6	10 am	Hurricanes	Click Here to Register
Mon, May 11	7 pm	Observations in 3-D	Click Here to Register
Wed, May 13	10 am	Lightning	Click Here to Register
Thu, May 14	10 am	Rip Currents	Click Here to Register
Tue, May 19	7 pm	River Ice	Click Here to Register
Wed, May 20	10 am	Quasi-Linear Convective Systems	Click Here to Register
Thu, May 21	10 am	Hurricanes	Click Here to Register

Classes are FREE & for ALL AGES!
 All classes will run approximately 1 hour with a question and answer segment
 No prior training is necessary, but registration is required
 NOTE: Classes may be canceled with short notice due to severe weather!

Link to Weather 101: <https://www.weather.gov/ohx/weather101>
 Scroll to the bottom of the webpage for class content descriptions

In the interim:

We hope to have additional Basic Spotter training available soon.

Also:

- Advanced Spotter training
- Radar interpretation
- Skywarn Key Net Control training

We'll continue to look for other training opportunities – homegrown, local, in-state, or out-of-state.

Next month

For the April 21st Zoom call, we have a guest presenter: Melissa Griffin, DNR, SC State Climate Office.

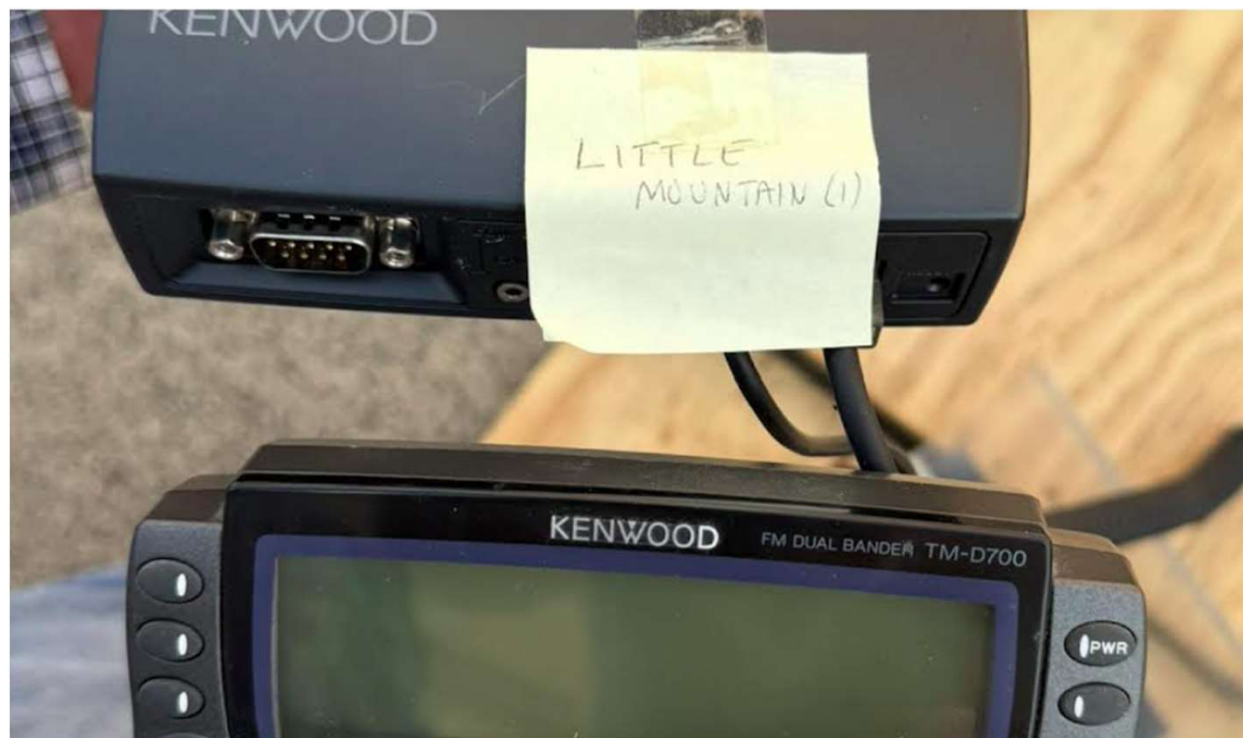
NWS Columbia

Amateur radios were removed from NWS Columbia storage.

Photographs and test results follow.

Kenwood TM-D700

Worked fine, no issues noted



Kenwood TM-251A
Worked fine, no issues noted



Kenwood TM-271

Works fine, needs a new mic cord



Yaesu FT-1802

Works fine, needs a new mic cord



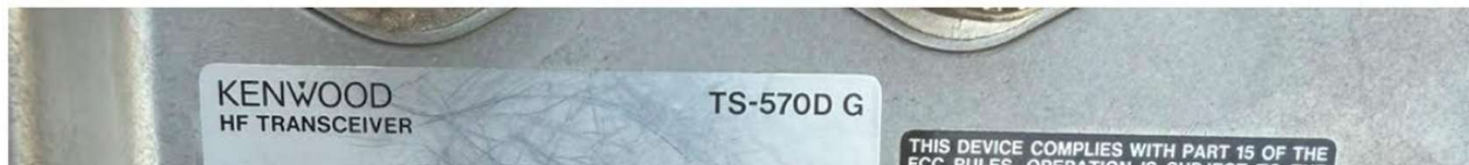
Kenwood TM-251A

Display problems, Receives okay, Transmit is questionable



Kenwood TS-570D

Replaced power cord, Works fine



Icom IC-751
Works fine



Astron RS-20A

Tested, works fine



Astron RS-20M

Tested, works fine



Astron RS-50M

Tested, works fine



These radios were once in service in the NWS Columbia office. (1st of 2 photographs)



These radios were once in service in the NWS Columbia office. (2nd of 2 photographs)



NWS Columbia radio assets

Proposed/remaining issues

1. Help NWS Columbia see the value of having on-site functional radio capabilities.
2. Identify and test antennas removed from service.
3. Identify a location within the facility for an amateur radio station at NWS Columbia.
4. Evaluate periodic on-site equipment access for testing.
5. What else?

This month - March 10th NWS Cola Midlands Skywarn FT Net

NetLogger 3.1.7 - STANDALONE
 File View Edit Setup Function eLogs Help

UTC 10:36
 NetLogger Mode: STANDALONE Net: NWS Cola Midlands Skywarn FT Net Profile: YLsystem Timeout:

Operator: KN4KRZ-MARK Frequency: Various Mode: Various Band: Various NCS: K4RHK Logger: KN4KRZ

Net Activity:

Check-ins

#	Member Id	Call Sign	State	M/P	Remarks	QSL Info	City	tatu	RST Rcvd	RST Sent	County	Name
7		WA4CNL	SC		(no club info)	LoTW eQSL Mail	St Matthews				Calhoun	Lee J Ott
8		WB6GUC	SC		(no club info)		MCBEE				Chesterfield	Gordon N Cole
12		N4JOM	SC		(no club info)		Manning				Clarendon	James O Mason
9		AA4TE	SC		(no club info)		Camden				Kershaw	David L Dahlberg
10		KB1ND	SC		(no club info)		LUGOFF				Kershaw	Ronald C Jarosz
1		K4RHK	SC		(no club info)		Swansea				Lexington	Timothy E Starr
2		KR4HTT	SC		(no club info)		Lexington				Lexington	Leland Lewis
3		KQ4FOB	SC		(no club info)		Chapin				Lexington	Richard S Senkowsky
4		KX4TKO	SC		(no club info)		Irmo				Lexington	Michael R Connelly
5		W1MRC	SC		(no club info)		Lexington				Lexington	Matthew R Crook Sr
6		KM4RCN	SC		(no club info)		BLYTHEWOOD				Richland	Henry J Younts
11		KN4KRZ	SC		(no club info)		COLUMBIA	(op)			Richland	Mark W Goddard

Midlands

Lancaster
 Newberry
 Fairfield
 Kershaw - 2
 Saluda
 Lexington - 5
 Richland - 2
 Calhoun - 1
 Orangeburg
 Sumter
 Clarendon - 1
Midlands total - 11

Pee Dee

Chesterfield - 1

Grand total - 12

Last month

2.10.26 Skywarn FleetTalk Repeater Net Check-ins

Lancaster
 Newberry
 Fairfield - 1
 Kershaw - 2
 Saluda
 Lexington - 4
 Richland - 3
 Sumter - 1
 Calhoun - 1
 Orangeburg - 1
 Clarendon - 2
Midlands 15 Total

Chesterfield - 1
 Lee - 1
PeeDee 2 Total

Union - 1
 York - 1
GSP 2 Total

Grand Total 19

Opportunities/Recap

Training

Weather 101 – March, April & May

Other training, as available

Engagement indications

2nd Tuesday of the month Skywarn FleetTalk Net – Largely Check-in Net – Participation is less than desirable (Hams)

3rd Tuesday of the month Skywarn Zoom Call – More Skywarn business/training oriented (Hams and non-Hams)

Response to [actual](#) Weather events – Zello participation is reasonably good (In general, we have 25 - 30 monitoring)

PACE

Primary – Zello – We practice Zello regularly, during monitoring/activations and on the 3rd Tuesdays of the month.

Alternate – FleetTalk – We practice FleetTalk regularly, during monitoring/activations and on the 2nd Tuesdays of the month.

Contingency – Skywarn designated repeaters – We need a plan to regularly practice using these repeaters.

Emergency – Suggestions for HF practice

SC Statewide ARES HF Net – Tuesdays, 6:00 PM on frequency 3.990 (+/-) LSB

SC SSB (NTS) – Daily, 7:00 PM on frequency 3.915 LSB

NWS Columbia - Restore radio capabilities

Spotter engagement – *We've made some progress. We think there is room for more progress. Your input and ideas are welcome.*