



MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NOAA'S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RECOGNIZES IDAHO'S SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS STORMREADY

Idaho's Southeastern District Health Department (SDHD) has earned the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) StormReady® recognition, the first such agency nationwide. This department met rigorous recognition requirements established by the StormReady Advisory Board for disaster preparedness and severe weather educational activities. More than half of eligible Idaho locations (30 counties, 121 cities & communities, the Idaho National Laboratory and now SDHD) have achieved StormReady recognition and participate in the program. SDHD Health Preparedness Program Management was instrumental in earning this recognition.

WHAT: Idaho's Southeastern District Health Department will be presented with NOAA's National Weather Service plaque and signs declaring them StormReady.

WHERE: Southeastern District Health Department
1901 Alvin Ricken Drive, Pocatello, Idaho
Ceremony in Health Department Director's Office

WHEN: August 23, 2007
Ceremony conducted at 10:00 a.m.
Media availability with NWS and community officials from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

WHO: Rick Dittmann, Meteorologist in Charge, NWS Forecast Office, Pocatello
Vernon Preston, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, NWSFO, Pocatello
Ed Marugg, SDHD Director
Rod Horejs, SDHD Health Preparedness Program Manager

NOAA National Weather Service StormReady program provides communities the skills and education needed to survive severe weather. StormReady helps community leaders and emergency managers strengthen their local hazardous weather operations. These locations have fine-tuned their weather action plans in respect to training, weather monitoring, warning reception and local warning dissemination. See "StormReady" online: www.stormready.noaa.gov/. For more on NOAA, visit www.noaa.gov. For Weather Information visit www.weather.gov and www.weather.gov/pocatello

Visit www.sdhdidaho.org for a Calendar of Events and other important information.