

# Iowa State University Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

3010 Agronomy Hall, Ames, IA 50010

[posters.isuams@iastate.edu](mailto:posters.isuams@iastate.edu)



DATE: January 20, 2009  
TO: Elementary Students, Teachers, and Parents  
FROM: Iowa State University Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society  
RE: 2009 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

This past year has been devastating for the state of Iowa in terms of severe weather, with injuries and deaths from floods, tornadoes, and lightning. It is important not only for adults, but children to know the dangers and risks during severe weather events and how they can be prepared during such an event. For this reason the Iowa State Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (ISU AMS) is sponsoring a **Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest**. Below is more information on this year's contest, including official rules, poster tips, and flyers for distribution.

The contest is open to all elementary students in the state of Iowa (grades K-6), and will be judged on the basis of how well they can illustrate what they and their families can do to prepare for severe weather events in Iowa. Posters should convey a simple and straightforward message, with legible writing and bright/visible artwork to compliment their message. The winners of both categories (grades K-3 and 4-6) as well as honorable mentions will be displayed on the ISU AMS webpage and may receive recognition from local media.

For more information, please continue reading the additional pages within this packet or view the ISU AMS Poster webpage: [www.meteor.iastate.edu/ams/posters.php](http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/ams/posters.php)

Jayson Prentice

*Jayson Prentice*

ISU AMS Academic Chair

# Official Rules

<b>Eligibility:</b>	All Iowa elementary students grade kindergarten (K) through sixth (6) during the 2008-2009 school year.
<b>Poster Specifications:</b>	<p>Posters must be submitted on poster, tag, or illustration board, and be approximately 22" x 28" inches in size.</p> <p>All artwork must be original, and may be done in any medium, although marker, stencil and the like are preferred. Stenciled, traced, or computer-generated graphics are prohibited.</p> <p>All posters will become property of the ISU AMS.</p> <p>Posters will be judged on the ability to clearly represent severe weather awareness in the state of Iowa.</p> <p>On the back of the poster, the following information about the artist must be printed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Name, age, and grade</li><li>Local school district</li><li>Name(s), home address, and telephone of parents.</li></ul>
<b>Deadline:</b>	Posters must be postmarked by April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2009 and be received no later than April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2009.
<b>Submitting:</b>	Posters should be mailed either flat or rolled to: Poster Contest c/o ISU AMS 3010 Agronomy Hall Ames, IA 50010
<b>Winners:</b>	<p>One (1) first place, and up to three (3) honorable mentions will be given to artists in each category (grades K-3 and grades 4-6).</p> <p>First place artists will receive a first place certificate, weather calendar, an Iowa State Meteorology window cling, and a weather radio!</p> <p>Honorable mentions will receive an honorable mention certificate, weather calendar, and window cling!</p>

# Tips for Teachers & Parents

Creating a poster to help children understand how they can prepare and be aware for severe weather is a great idea both for the classroom and the home. Whether you are a teacher or a parent, here are a few tips and ideas to help with the making of a severe weather awareness poster.

## What types of severe weather should you be prepared and aware of?

- High Winds
- Hail
- Lightning
- Tornadoes
- Flooding

All of these, among others, can be severe weather events that you can and so see occur across the state of Iowa. It is your choice whether the poster includes just one or all of the difference facets of severe weather. Below are a few websites that may help you and the artist(s) learn more about severe weather and what you can do to prepare:

National Weather Service Severe Weather Awareness

<http://www.weather.gov/om/severeweather/index.shtml>

National Weather Service StormReady

<http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/>

NOAA Weather Radio

<http://www.weather.gov/nwr/>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Ready Kids

<http://www.ready.gov/kids/home.html>

## Need a few more pointers on what we are looking for in a poster?

Posters should include drawings, especially colored, to portray what they can do to be prepared.

Writing should be short and concise, as well as legible.

The more color the better, let the writing and drawings stand out with eye-catching colors.

Include a fact! Did you know...

Come up with a catchy phrase (i.e. 'Turn Around, Don't Drown!')

Most of all show that you are having fun while taking preparedness seriously!!

# Iowa Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

brought to you by: **Iowa State Student Chapter of the  
American Meteorological Society**

**What can you do to be prepared?**

**Open to students from Kindergarten to Sixth grade.**

**Make your own poster (approximately 22x28") to how you can be prepared!**

**Tornadoes**

**Hail**

**High Winds**

**Flooding**

**Lightning**

Winners from both grades K-3 and 4-6:

**You can win a NOAA Weather Radio,  
Iowa State Meteorology Calendar,  
Meteorology Window Cling,  
Certificates,  
And more!!**

**Posters must be received by April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009! We hope to receive yours!**

For official rules view: <http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/ams/community/posters.php>