

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: News Media

From: Bamberg County Administration

Date: May 30, 2024

Re: Bamberg County Declared "StormReady" by National Weather Service

Bamberg, South Carolina (May 2024) – Nearly five months after an EF-2 tornado leveled much of Downtown Bamberg, Bamberg County has officially been declared "StormReady" for another four years by the National Weather Service.

This renewed certification has been granted to Bamberg County "for preparing for increasing vulnerability to extreme weather and water events by meeting established community preparedness standards through advanced planning, education and awareness."

According to John A. Quagliariello, National Weather Service Warning Coordination Meteorologist, "StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness. While no community is storm proof, [Bamberg County Emergency Services Director Tiffany Kemmerlin] has demonstrated that Bamberg County has the communication and safety skills needed to save lives and property---before, during and after the event." The current StormReady recognition for Bamberg County will be valid for the next four years and will officially expire on January 12, 2028.

"On behalf of Bamberg County Emergency Services team, we are honored and thrilled to announce the renewal of our StormReady certification. This recognition stands as a testament to our dedicated planning, education, and awareness efforts to safeguard our community against severe weather. While no community can be completely storm-proof, our renewed StormReady status highlights our unwavering commitment to preparedness, communication, and safety. Here's to another four years of resilience and readiness," stated Bamberg County Emergency Services Director Tiffany Kemmerlin.

Bamberg County Council Chairman Evert Comer said, "We are so fortunate to have dedicated Emergency Services personnel who are continuously working toward the safest and most prepared Bamberg County possible."

"January's tornado demonstrated how invaluable our Emergency Services Division is to the safety and wellbeing of Bamberg citizens, and this renewed StormReady certification demonstrates the dedication and knowledge of Tiffany and our entire Emergency Services team," stated Bamberg County Administrator Joey Preston.

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For more information on this press release, email info@bambergcounty.sc.gov.