



# COUNTY OF ERIE

## OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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**Kathy Dahlkemper**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Erie County receives StormReady designation from the National Weather Service**

Erie, PA – The National Weather Service officially presented Erie County with a designation as a StormReady community during a news conference Monday at the Erie County Department of Public Safety building.

Gary N. Lee, director of administration, accepted the National Weather Service designation on behalf of Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper.

The StormReady designation indicates that Erie County's Department of Public Safety met established National Weather Service criteria, including formalizing a system to monitor local weather, increasing promotion of public readiness, enhancing planning for severe weather incidents and expanding capabilities for public alerts. In addition, Public Safety ensured that it serves as a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center.

"This National Weather Service designation recognizes the strength of Erie County's strategy for planning for, responding to and recovering from severe weather incidents," Dahlkemper said in advance of Monday's news conference. "I am proud of our Public Safety staff for their continued dedication to the cause of preparing our communities, alerting the public and responding quickly to emergencies."

Also at Monday's news conference, Erie County announced its classification as an alerting authority through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Integrated Public Alert & Warning System, a next-generation emergency notification system. Erie County is among just 22 counties in the state to be IPAWS-capable.

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