



EPP and Center for Climate and Energy Decision Making Sponsored Seminar

Chris Strager

Acting Director

Office of Climate, Water and Weather Services

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Presenting on:

“Weather Ready Nation”

December 9, 2013

12 noon

(Lunch served at 11:50am)

129 Baker Conference Room

Department of Engineering and Public Policy

Seminar Abstract: NOAA is committed to the mission of reducing loss of life, property, and the disruption from high impact weather and water-related events. To this end, NOAA envisions a Weather-Ready Nation where society is prepared for and responds to these events. The Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) strategic priority is about building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather. To achieve this vision, NOAA recognizes it is essential to work collaboratively with others within all levels of government, industry, nonprofits, and academia. NOAA’s contribution to building a Weather-Ready Nation focuses on improvements in the following areas:

- Communicating preparedness messages to user groups and the general public in a consistent, unified manner;
- Providing impact-based decision support services to NOAA core partners during high impact events;
- Performing both physical science and social science research and transitioning innovative technologies into operations;
- Delivering lifesaving forecast and warning information to the public via multiple pathways (e.g., Wireless Emergency Alerts, use of social media);
- Enhancing pre-existing NOAA partnerships and establishing new partnerships across all sectors of society.

Partnerships are essential. Government cannot do it alone. To formally recognize the value our partners add to this initiative, NOAA is launching the Weather-Ready Nation Ambassadors initiative this fall as a way to engage external partners to work with NOAA to promote preparedness and strengthen community and business resilience. Together we can build a Weather-Ready Nation.

Speaker Bio: Mr. Strager received his Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University in May 1983 and his Master’s degree in Meteorology from Texas A&M University in 1989. Mr. Strager started his meteorological career as an enlisted weather observer with the Air Force in 1978. Mr. Strager started his career with the NWS at the Portland, ME, Weather Forecast Office. In November 1993, he transferred to the Federal Aviation Administration’s Air Route Traffic Control Center/Center Weather Service Unit in Oberlin, OH. He returned to the NWS at the Grand Forks, ND, Weather Forecast Office in October 1995, where he received a Department of Commerce Silver Medal for his work during the Red River Flood of 1997. He joined the Pittsburgh, PA, Weather Forecast Office in the position of Senior Meteorologist in 1998 and was promoted in October 2003 as Regional Aviation Meteorologist at the Alaska Region Headquarters in Anchorage. While in this position he also served as the national program manager for the NWS’s Volcanic Ash Program. He became the Alaska Region’s Deputy Regional Director in December 2004 before returning in 2008 to the Pittsburgh Weather Forecast Office as the Meteorologist-in-Charge. He served as the Pittsburgh MIC until his selection as the Director for NWS Eastern Region in February 2010. In March 2011 Mr. Strager came to NWS Headquarters as the NWS Advisor for Science and Service Integration to develop the NWS Roadmap, which will implement the NWS Strategic Plan. This document will shape and guide NWS operations in the year 2020 and beyond.

Carnegie Mellon University