

Summer Is Here, And So Are Summer Weather Hazards!

By [Douglas Hilderbrand](#), NWS HQ Preparedness & Resilience Lead

The National Weather Service launches a safety campaign each season consisting of new safety messages, infographics, social media content, and other hot off the presses material. Along with new content is a theme for each campaign. This summer's theme is "Hazards escalate quickly." A bright sunny day can turn dark and stormy in minutes. This summer, go and enjoy the great outdoors, but do so "weather ready." Know your risks. Get prepared. And be an example to others, especially those most vulnerable. Taking steps to prepare can help minimize the risks to you and your family. As the temperatures rise, make sure you have plenty of access to water, air conditioning, shade, and sunscreen. When it does get dark on the horizon and you hear thunder or see lightning, seek shelter immediately. Don't fall into the "just one more minute" syndrome. For the full array of weather safety content, go to www.weather.gov/wrn/summer-safety. And remember, all weather safety content is free and available to share with others. Here is an example of just one of the new infographics for this summer:

Heat can escalate quickly.

Warm temperatures can quickly become dangerous. Heat is one of the most deadly weather hazards — don't underestimate it.

-  **NEVER** leave people or pets alone in a closed car
-  Drink plenty of water, even if you don't feel thirsty
-  Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing
-  Spend time in air conditioning and in the shade



Aware is published by NOAA's National Weather Service to enhance communications between NWS and the emergency management community and other government and private sector partners as part of a Weather-Ready Nation.

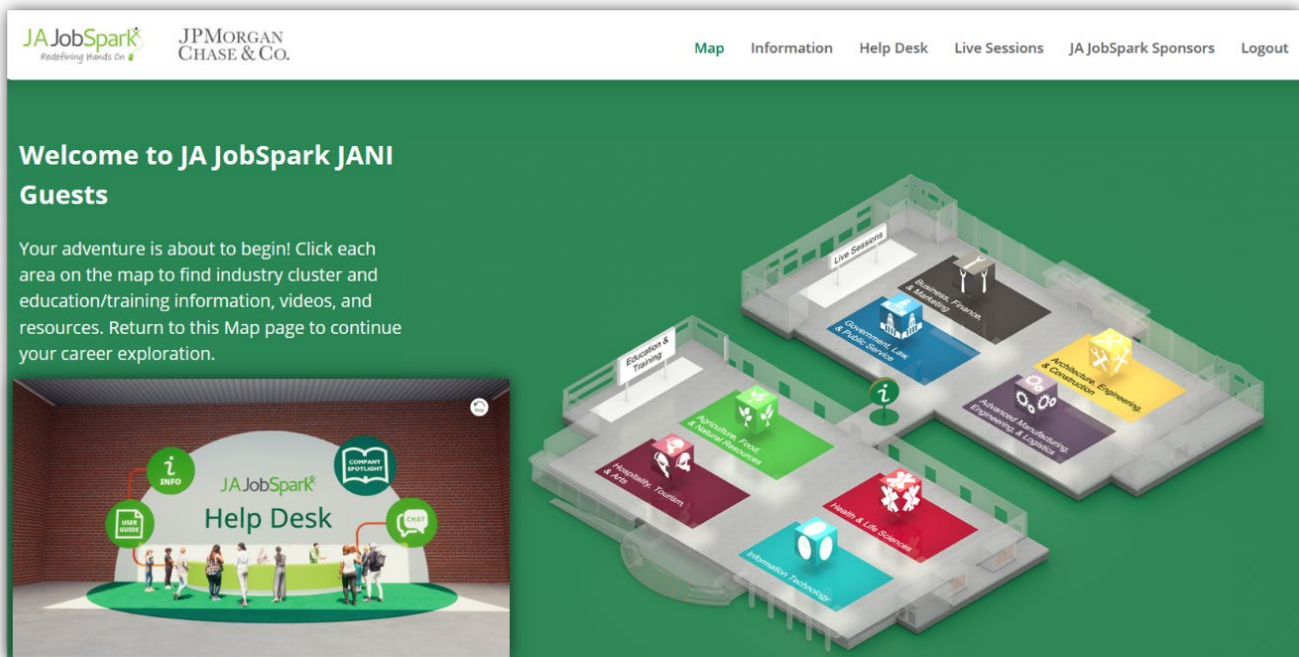
Junior Achievement JobSpark Virtual Job Fair

By [Michael Lewis](#), WCM, WFO Northern Indiana

The Junior Achievement JobSpark Virtual Job Fair was held over two days in mid-May. Originally planned as an on-site, hands-on career fair in early 2020, the program was postponed to November of 2020 before being converted to a virtual event. Targeting middle and high school students across Northern Indiana, JobSpark provided Students with the opportunity to meet with career professionals from the following business sectors:

- Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, & Logistics
- Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
- Architecture, Engineering, & Construction
- Business, Finance & Marketing
- Government, Law, & Public Service
- Health & Life Sciences
- Hospitality, Tourism, & Arts
- Information Technology

Working together with Junior Achievement Northern Indiana, the National Weather Service in Northern Indiana helped to identify several core partners who were included in the event. During the two-day event, **Lonnie Fisher (Forecaster)** and **Michael Lewis (WCM)** gave a short presentation on the future evolution of the NWS, focusing on Research to Operations, IDSS, and the Weather Ready Nation initiatives. Following the presentation, NWS presenters answered student questions. Over the two days, 295 students attended the NWS sessions with 49 Middle/High Schools represented and a number of Homeschools in attendance. Plans are already in place for an in-person event in Fall 2021 with the NWS working with local core partners to provide real-time demonstration of on-site IDSS and to provide a look into the partnerships and services our agencies provide.



The Junior Achievement JobSpark was conducted virtually this spring. Originally planned as an in-person event, the program was cancelled due to COVID, rescheduled, and ultimately moved to a virtual platform. The National Weather Service in Northern Indiana provided four 20-minute sessions during the two day event. (Image provided by Junior Achievement Northern Indiana).

Working Together to Keep Everyone Safe at Outdoor Events

By: [Amos Dodson](#), WFO Northern Indiana

The National Weather Service in Northern Indiana partnered with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Chicago WFO to host a virtual Integrated Warning Team Workshop from May 17-19, 2021. The workshop lasted two hours over the course of three days. The Northern Indiana IWT Planning Team (composed of NWS, EMA, DOT, and media representatives) decided to focus this year's workshop on outdoor event safety out of consideration for the many large outdoor events that are planned for this summer. This also coincided with the 10-year anniversary of the Indiana State Fair stage collapse, which killed 7 people and injured 58.

The IWT planning team gathered an incredible lineup of speakers this year, including Steven Adelman and Dr. Kevin Kloesel from the Event Safety Alliance, Lt. Dave Oslund from Michigan State University, and John Nebl from DuPage Co. (IL) EMA. Each speaker shared a wealth of knowledge and resources during the first two days of the workshop to keep the public safe from weather hazards during outdoor events. A key focus of the workshop was having a detailed weather safety plan in place well before the event and to have all key decision-makers sign-off on the plan. John Nebl discussed the Event Ready program and the importance of having a dedicated weather liaison at the event who can coordinate with meteorologists on expected hazardous weather. On the third day, Mike Bardou and Kevin Donofrio from NWS Chicago led the participants through a tabletop exercise to discuss and practice concepts from the Event Ready Toolkit.

The workshop emphasized the need for all public and private entities to work together to keep the public safe from hazardous weather during outdoor events. Jay Farlow, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Allen County ARES, stated: "So often, a communication failure happens not because of technology problems, but by people not realizing they have information that others need." Even the media can play an important role in this endeavor. Gabe Prough, from WPTA in Fort Wayne, had the following take-away: "For the broadcast side, keep emphasizing timing information that provides decision makers additional helpful information and amplifies the NWS message when hazardous weather is possible." The 2021 IWT workshop increased awareness of everyone's role in keeping the public safe during outdoor events and offered public safety officials numerous resources to assist with developing a good weather safety plan.



Attendees participating in the 8th Annual Integrated Warning Team workshop virtually via Microsoft Teams. Presenters included (clockwise from far left) Brian Schackow (Fort Wayne TinCaps), Lt. Dave Oslund (Michigan State University Emergency Management Coordinator), Steve Adelman (Adelman Law Group, PLLC, and Vice President of the Event Safety Alliance, Dr. Kevin Kloesel (University Meteorologist for the Department of Campus Safety at the University of Oklahoma), and John Nebl (DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management).



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