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## Mesa Community College named NOAA Weather Ready Ambassador

Jun 21st, 2015 · by Mesa Independent staff report · 0 Comments

Mesa Community College has been named a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador.

The Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador initiative is an effort to formally recognize NOAA partners who are improving the nation's readiness against extreme weather, water and climate events. As a WRN Ambassador, MCC is committing to work with NOAA and other Ambassadors to strengthen national resilience against extreme weather.

"This is a very exciting opportunity and I'm looking forward to further developing our weather-ready presence in the community," said Erin Saffell, an MCC climatologist who has a long-standing professional relationship with the Phoenix National Weather Service forecasting office.

Saffell said the recognition is a direct result of her recent sabbatical work, which strengthened her proficiency in severe weather forecasting and operations. Her research enriches student learning and fosters the Maricopa Community College District's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education pipeline.

WRN Ambassadors serve a pivotal role in affecting societal change — helping to build a nation that is ready, responsive and resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and water events. To be officially recognized as a WRN Ambassador, an organization must commit to:

- Promoting Weather-Ready Nation messages and themes to their stakeholders;
- Engaging with NOAA personnel on potential collaboration opportunities;
- Sharing their success stories of preparedness and resiliency; and
- Serving as an example by educating employees on workplace preparedness.

One of NOAA's missions is to save life and property by providing critical environmental intelligence, including weather forecasts and warnings, to NOAA partners and the general public

*The Mesa Independent is available in Mesa and Maricopa County*

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**We want your photos**

The Independent continues to feature highlighting the wildlife and scenic beauty of the community.

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Light-rail service coming to downtown

Light-rail service has been testing light rail train on new tracks from the Signature Main Transit Center in Mesa Drive, with stops located the new Sun Life Center and Main streets across from the Mesa Arts Center. See story inside about plans to start the downtown Mesa route Aug. 22.

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**Bike-share programs spreading in Arizona, from Phoenix to Mesa**

By Ryan Foley

Bike sharing is spreading through Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa and is being used by thousands of people. The service is being used by thousands of people. The service is being used by thousands of people.

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