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U.S. Weather Bureau.  
Coastal warning display system.



U.S. WEATHER BUREAU

# Coastal Warning Display System

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective March 1, 1968, Environmental Science Services Administration, Weather Bureau, will make some changes in the system used for displaying warning signals at stations along United States seacoasts, including the Great Lakes, Hawaiian Islands and Puerto Rico. The flags and pennants now employed in the system will remain unchanged, except that the former "Whole Gale" signal will be called a "Storm" signal. Another important change: the terms "Hurricane Warning" and "Hurricane Warning Signal" will be used only in connection with Tropical Cyclones (Hurricanes). A full description of the system follows.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

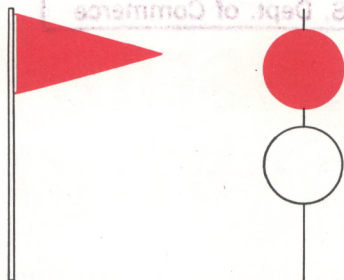
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# Explanation of Display Signals

## SMALL CRAFT, GALE, STORM, and HURRICANE WARNINGS

**IMPORTANT!** The Small Craft Warning covers a wide range of wind speeds and/or sea conditions. Also, "small craft" include boats of many designs and sizes. Therefore, mariners should regard the Small Craft Warning display signal as an alert that wind and/or sea conditions potentially dangerous to their boats exist or are forecast. For more specific information they should obtain a detailed forecast by telephone or by listening to coastal weather forecasts and warnings transmitted over local radio stations, Coast Guard radio, or the Weather Bureau continuous VHF/FM broadcast on 162.55 MegaHertz in areas where available.

### SMALL CRAFT

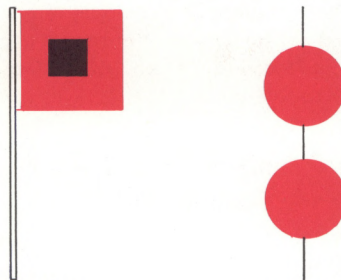


DAYTIME SIGNAL

NIGHT SIGNAL

One RED pennant displayed by day and a RED light over a WHITE light at night to indicate winds as high as 33 knots (38 m.p.h.) and/or sea conditions considered dangerous to small craft operations are forecast for the area, (see note on last page).

### STORM

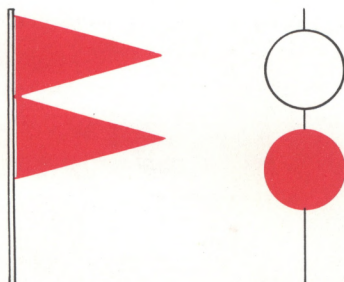


DAYTIME SIGNAL

NIGHT SIGNAL

A single square RED flag with a BLACK center displayed during daytime and two RED lights at night to indicate that winds 48 knots (55 m.p.h.) and above are forecast for the area. If the winds are associated with a tropical cyclone (hurricane), the "Storm Warning" display indicates winds 48 to 63 knots (55 to 73 m.p.h.) are forecast.

### GALE

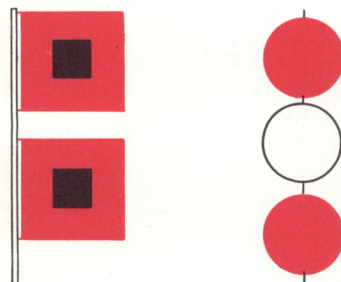


DAYTIME SIGNAL

NIGHT SIGNAL

Two RED pennants displayed by day and a WHITE light above a RED light at night to indicate winds within the range 34 to 47 knots (39 to 54 m.p.h.) are forecast for the area.

### HURRICANE



DAYTIME SIGNAL

NIGHT SIGNAL

Displayed only in connection with a tropical cyclone (hurricane). Two square RED flags with BLACK centers displayed by day and a WHITE light between two RED lights at night to indicate that winds 64 knots (74 m.p.h.) and above are forecast for the area.

**Important note concerning "Small Craft Warnings".** The Small Craft Warning covers a wide range of wind speeds and/or sea conditions. Also, "small craft" include boats of many designs and sizes. Therefore, boaters should regard the Small Craft Warning display signal as an alert that wind and/or sea conditions potentially dangerous to their boats exist or are forecast. For more specific information they should obtain a detailed forecast by telephone or by listening to coastal weather forecasts and warnings transmitted over local radio stations, Coast Guard radio, or the Weather Bureau continuous VHF-FM broadcast on 162.55 Mega Hertz in areas where available.

### **Availability of Coastal Warning Facilities Charts**

ESSA Weather Bureau issues annually a series of 14 Coastal Warning Facilities Charts which contain locations of the visual storm warning display stations, Weather Bureau telephone numbers, and a listing of weather broadcasts by VHF-FM, marine radiotelephone, FAA and regular AM and FM radio stations. These charts cover the following areas:

Eastport, Me. to Montauk Pt., N.Y.  
Montauk Pt., N.Y. to Manasquan, N.J.  
Manasquan, N.J. to Cape Hatteras, N.C.  
Cape Hatteras, N.C. to Brunswick, Ga.  
Eastern Florida  
Aplachicola, Fla. to Morgan City, La.  
Morgan City, La. to Brownsville, Tex.  
Pt. Conception, Calif. to Mexican Border  
Eureka, Calif. to Pt. Conception, Calif.  
Canadian Border to Eureka, Calif. and Alaska  
Great Lakes: Michigan and Superior  
Great Lakes: Erie, Huron and Ontario  
Hawaiian Islands  
Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands

Copies of these charts can be obtained from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at .10 each.

