

HOME SARASOTA VENICE MANATEE EAST MANATEE CHARLOTTE NORTH PORT



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA'S INFORMATION LEADER

POWERED BY SNN AND HERALD-TRIBUNE

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

NEWS | COMMUNITY BUSINESS SPORTS A&E OPINION JOBS AUTOS REAL ESTATE CLA
 Local Florida Nation World Politics Health Weather Crime Photos SNN Video

Sponsored Links

Plan Safe

Consulting and solutions for Disasters and Emergencies
www.plansafe.net

Saltwater Desalination

Sea water converted into a life saving survival drink.
www.sea-pack.com

Weems

Specializir emergency
www.weems

- [Discuss this article](#)
- [Letter to editor](#)
- [Print this article](#)
- [E-mail this article](#)

Top world

[North Korea Nuclear Talks Remain Stalled](#)

[Landslides Kill 31 in Pakistan's Kashmir](#)

[Hundreds Help Bury Former Saddam Deputy](#)

[Israeli Workers Launch General Strike](#)

Top news

[Board finalizes Booker change Despite support from the community, Principal Jill Dorsett will be replaced.](#)

[Parking lot offers promise](#)

[Crocs getting habitat to sink their teeth into](#)

[Sarasota County gives Bee Ridge Park developer a year](#)

[North Port medical facility plans gain ground](#)

[Music-focused Bradenton coffeehouse to close its doors](#)

Your comments

[Pit bull attacks girls walking from the beach](#) (3)

[Why aren't traffic laws enforced?](#) (4)

[Outfoxed questions Fox News claim of fair and balanced](#) (18)

[Do we really need a General Pelosi?](#) (55)

[bus driver fired over Muslim jokes](#) (76)

[running red lights](#) (139)

[Missing girl found dead](#) (7503)

[Ministers to demand board explain principals transfer](#)

Web Site to Pool European Weather Data

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

VIENNA, Austria -- It looks like a color-coded terror alert scale - and meteorologically speaking, that's exactly what it is.

With climate change making conditions more unpredictable, national weather services from across the European Union have joined forces to create <http://www.meteoalarm.eu> ><http://www.meteoalarm.eu>, a new Web site providing up-to-the-minute information on "extreme weather" across the continent.

The initiative, managed by Austria's Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics, is designed to give Europeans a single source for details on flash floods, severe thunderstorms, gale-force winds, heat waves, blizzards and other violent weather that poses a threat to life or property.

It also issues 24- and 48-hour warnings for heavy fog, extreme cold, forest fires and "coastal events" such as high waves or severe tides.

"In one glance you will be able to see where in Europe the weather might become dangerous," organizers said Saturday in a statement.

The service is similar to the United States' National Weather Service, which posts on its Web site conditions, warnings and forecasts for all 50 states.

Although the European site officially will launch in Madrid, Spain, on March 23 - World Meteorological Day - it is already live on the Web in test form.



[Zoom](#)

A man skis and another walks in the snow on Troodos Mountain some 71 kilometers (44 miles) from the capital Nicosia, Cyprus, on Thursday, March 15, 2007. A strong depression originating from Russia is causing bad weather and snow falls over Cyprus as temperatures reached 2 degrees Celsius (35 Fahrenheit). (AP Photo/Petros Karadjias)

(13)
[Halliburton is moving its corporate headquarters from Houston to Dubai in the United](#) (38)
[Homeowner had a right to resist](#) (41)
[Everyone JUMP-IN](#) (1286)
[Activist Obama Church Enters Spotlight](#) (5)
[Police: Womans killing for drug money](#) (17)
[Sammi al-Arian Hunger strike contraversial obama commeral airs on youtube](#) (4)
[world wide anti war rallies mark 4th yr](#) (9)
[sad](#) (3)
[Idiots With Children](#) (71)
[Duct Tape Cures warts..](#) (3)
[CLAPP/Servian Urban growth dominates city races](#) (5)

Under the new pan-European warning system, white means missing or insufficient data; green means no imminent threat; yellow signifies potentially dangerous weather; orange warns of dangerous conditions; and red means very dangerous, "exceptionally intense" weather.

Pictograms and photographs showing lightning bolts, churning floodwaters and other catastrophic scenes also pop up "to make the general public more conscios or aware" of a particular threat, the organizers said.

Users click on maps to get details on current conditions or forecasts of violent weather for the next day. There are also links to a country's national weather service.

The Network of European Meteorological Services includes 20 countries and covers land stretching from Portugal to Sweden. Not every nation in the region is contributing, but the site hopes to bring others online eventually.

The Web site "pulls together all the warnings from the official national weather services," said Michael Staudinger of the Vienna weather institute.

It seemed to be accurate on Saturday, at least for Vienna, which was buffeted by gale-force winds gusting to 50 mph. The system churned out a yellow high-wind warning for the area and provided details in German and English.

On the Net:

<http://www.meteoalarm.eu>"><http://www.meteoalarm.eu>

Last modified: March 17. 2007 1:02PM