

COD Storm Chase 2025 Info Sheet

*If you have not done so already, please go to
<https://weather.cod.edu/chasing>
and click on the “Mailing List” tab at the top to enter your information.*

Please complete the ***Trip Preference*** form and the ***Acknowledgement of Storm Chasing Expectations*** form and return them to
wxstaff@weather.cod.edu

Please mark your trip primary preference and availability to go on other trips as well, if applicable.

During the middle of December, Professors Sirvatka and Stenz will be assessing the best trip constituency. We will then pass along your information to Lynn from Field Studies. She will enroll you in the course and contact you for payment information or to set up a payment plan.

Trips will require a \$500 non-refundable payment to reserve your spot. That amount will be applied to your total account balance. If issues arise, please contact Professor Sirvatka or Professor Stenz.

If you do not know for sure you can attend, please fill out the form and leave that message in the “***Comment***” section. We will still consider you for a trip, if available.

These trips are all available on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guaranteed spot available. Registrations and forms will be taken at any time until the trips fill-up. Check out this page for continued information on availability:

COD Storm Chasing 2025 - Trip Preference

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell #: _____

E-mail: _____

* COD Student ID# _____

Male _____ or Female _____ T-shirt Size _____ S M L XL XXL XXXL

Date Of Birth (month/day/year) _____

Are you CPR certified? _____

Which trips are you **able** to go on? Check each.

Trip 1 _____ Trip 2 _____ Trip 3 _____ Trip 4 _____

Which trip(s) would you **prefer** to go on? Please rank 1-4, if applicable.

Mark any trip you cannot attend with an "X."

Trip 1 _____ Trip 2 _____ Trip 3 _____ Trip 4 _____

Comments:

For staff only

Trip 1 _____ Trip 2 _____ Trip 3 _____ Trip 4 _____

* If you do not have or know your COD Student ID, leave blank. New students to COD will have to pay an additional one-time \$20 fee to register as a student.

Acknowledgement of Storm Chasing Expectations

Details Related to Trip Costs:

- 1) If you are not local, you are responsible for your own lodging/hotel room after the Thursday night class meeting in BIC3501 unless there is an early departure directly after this meeting (which is rare). You are also responsible for your own lodging/hotel on Sunday night when we return to campus. There is an on-campus hotel which can give good rates. (<https://cod.edu/inn/>)
- 2) During the trip, our group will be split between five hotel rooms, so there will be 3-4 people (all male or all female) per hotel room. If you would like a hotel room for yourself, you must pay for this in addition to the Field Trip fee. Extra rooms may not be available all nights depending on availability.
- 3) You are responsible for paying for your food/snacks during the trip. We try to select hotels that provide a free breakfast, but in general most meals will be at fast food places and restaurants throughout the trip. We will also have frequent stops at travel stops for snacks, and occasionally opportunities to stop at places like Walmart. You should budget for about \$35 dollars per day on the trip for food and have both cash and credit/debit cards with you. (Occasionally there will be places that do not accept credit/debit cards.) Depending on what you order/eat/drink per day, your costs could end up lower or higher than the \$35 per day estimate (keep in mind your own preferences when budgeting for this).

Details Related to Travel Expectations:

- 1) At times personal comfort is not going to be a priority. There will be long hours of driving with limited stops on some days (although we typically will manage to stop at least once every 2-3 hours). When actively chasing a storm the primary concerns will involve the safety of the group, which may mean things like limited/no stops for a few hours as well as regulating van temperatures to keep windows clear from fog rather than for comfort.
- 2) You should be considerate of the personal comfort of others on the trip. We will all be in close quarters in the vans. Make sure your belongings are taking up as little space as possible to not get in the personal space of others on the trip. Additionally, make sure you are practicing good hygiene throughout the trip because we will have extended hours in close proximity to one another each day.
- 3) Chasing strategy is for a safe and educational experience, it is not for thrill-seeking or getting as close as possible. Decisions on positioning are made to keep our group of 18 people split among two high profile vehicles as safe as possible during storm chases. Every safe attempt will be made to allow everyone out of the vans with a good, close view of storms. However, there will be times when we may need to position further away than desired for the safety of our large group. There will be no nighttime storm chasing aside from potentially taking some time to watch lightning if distance from storms and proximity to the hotel that night permit it.

Please review Detailed Expectations/Packing Tips at [this important link](#) before signing below.

I have read, reviewed, and accept all the trip expectations and details above.

Name _____

Date _____