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Local Thornton weather now available

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Contributed by: [ThorntonWeather.com](#) - on 10/30/2007

Having been fascinated with weather for many years, a Thornton resident has created a website dedicated to providing real-time weather conditions and forecasts for Thornton.

Colorado's weather can change drastically in a matter of minutes. Sunny and beautiful in the morning and blizzard conditions by the evening rush hour. Dangerous lightning, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, blizzards, torrential rain. All of that and more occur regularly here on the Front Range.

Further, what the news stations report happening downtown may not at all be what is happening in our area. While they may have clear, sunny skies, Thornton could be experiencing hail or severe wind. The temperatures and forecasts they report are for downtown, Stapleton and DIA, all a long ways from Thornton. Now residents can get local weather information and forecasts dedicated to Thornton on [ThorntonWeather.com](#).

I remember vividly as a sixth grader at Hillcrest Elementary in 1981 and the principal coming on the speaker and telling everyone to get under their desks. We weren't given a lot of information but I looked out the window and it was nearly pitch black outside (or seemed to be to a scared 12 year old) - and it was 2:30 in the afternoon. No one was allowed to go home until a parent came and got them which thankfully my dad soon did. My dad is a Kansas farm boy so he is no stranger to tornadoes but he sat there staring out the window that afternoon, trying to be very nonchalant but the tension could be felt even by a sixth grader.

As it turns out, an F2 tornado struck the city of Thornton about 4 miles from my house. The storm did \$10 million damage (in 1981 dollars, which would be about \$25 million now) and injured 42 people. Area businesses suffered significant damage and many homes in a nearby residential neighborhood were damaged or destroyed.

Pretty amazing stuff for sure and since then the weather has held a special fascination for me.

More than a year ago, Father's Day provided me my first weather station and since then it has been upgraded to a Davis Vantage Pro 2 weather station. Comprising temperature sensors, hygrometer (humidity), a rain gauge, UV and solar sensors and an anemometer to measure wind speed, I am able to monitor all critical weather statistics right where I live. Soon I coupled the station with a computer and the Internet and I started providing information to the public on my website at <http://www.thorntonweather.com>.

Amateur meteorology is actually a surprisingly popular hobby. In fact, there are four other personal weather stations in Thornton on the Internet, dozens across the Denver metro area and thousands across the United States. Weather stations that provide near professional level results can be found for less than \$200.00 and coupled with a computer, some software and an Internet connection, the results can be shared worldwide.

All of this is made possible by the data collected by the weather station itself and data gathered from the National Weather Service and the [Weather Underground](#). All of this information is fed into a specialty software program called [Weather Display](#). Weather Display was created by another weather enthusiast in New Zealand and it is now used by thousands of personal weather stations across the globe. The software collects the data from all of the various sources then organizes and uploads them to [ThorntonWeather.com](#).

On the website an array of information is available - as much as you will find on even the professionals' websites. Some of the highlights include:

- Real time weather information - Find out what the weather is like at this exact moment!
- Forecasts for Thornton from the National Weather Service (NWS).



ThorntonWeather.com's weather station sensor suite.
Provided by: [ThorntonWeather.com](#)

- Flash animated live conditions as well as live conditions via a MesoMap which provide real-time data from across the city, the state and the entire US.

- Radar coverage for the entire United States with the ability to zoom in to just the metro area.

- Real time weather advisories, warnings and alerts from the National Weather Service. You can even subscribe to a system that emails you immediately when the NWS issues a warning for Thornton.

- A wide variety of weather trends and statistics for not only recent days, weeks and months but also climate data going back more than 10 years.

Those merely scratch the surface of the information ThorntonWeather.com provides. Graphs, astronomical information, a weather glossary, and even NOAA weather radio are available.

ThorntonWeather.com started as a way to learn more about the weather and have a better idea of what was happening with the weather where we live and I am happy to make this information to everyone as a public service. The weather can vary greatly in Denver from one side of town to the next. While what the TV stations report is fine if you live downtown or at DIA, it doesn't always represent what is happening in the north metro area and Thornton. I invite all area residents to visit www.ThorntonWeather.com - your source for local weather.