

Tornado Safety Tips

Before the Storm:

- ✓ Develop a plan of action
- ✓ Have frequent drills
- ✓ Have a NOAA Weather Radio with a warning alarm tone
- ✓ Listen to radio and television for information
- ✓ If planning a trip outdoors, listen to forecasts

If a warning is issued or threatening weather approaches:

- ✓ Always remember D.U.C.K.
 - **D**own to the lowest level
 - **U**nder something sturdy
 - **C**over your head
 - **K**ee in the shelter until the storm has passed
- ✓ Stay away from windows
- ✓ Get out of automobiles



In Homes or Small Buildings:

- ✓ Go to the basement or to an interior room on the lowest floor (closet or bathroom).
- ✓ Upper floors are unsafe.
- ✓ If there is no time to descend, go to a closet, a small room with strong walls or an inside hallway.
- ✓ Wrap yourself in overcoats or blankets to protect yourself from flying debris.

In Schools, Hospitals, Factories, or Shopping Centers:

- ✓ Go to interior rooms and halls on the lowest floor.
- ✓ Stay away from glass enclosed places or areas with wide span roofs such as auditoriums and warehouses.
- ✓ Crouch down and cover your head.
- ✓ Don't take shelter in halls that open to the south or the west.
- ✓ Centrally located stairwells are good shelter.

In High-Rise Buildings:

- ✓ Go to interior small rooms or halls.
- ✓ Stay away from exterior walls or areas with glass.

In Mobile Homes:

- ✓ Abandon them immediately!!
- ✓ Many deaths occur in mobile homes. If you are in a mobile home when severe weather approaches, leave it immediately and go to a substantial structure or designated tornado shelter. Determine your shelter ahead of time so you don't have to think about it when weather strikes.

If no Suitable Structure is nearby:

- ✓ Lie flat in the nearest ditch or depression and use your hands to cover your head.
- ✓ Be alert for flash floods.