

TORNADO SAFETY TIPS

If a Warning is issued or if threatening weather approaches:

In a home or building, move to a pre-designated shelter, such as a basement.

If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.

Stay away from windows.

Get out of automobiles.

Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car; instead, leave it immediately.

Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned.

Occasionally, tornadoes develop so rapidly that advance warning is not possible. Remain alert for signs of an approaching tornado. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most deaths and injuries.

FLASH FLOOD SAFETY

When a flash flood WARNING is issued for your area, or the moment you realize that a flash flood is imminent, act quickly to save yourself. You may have only seconds!

Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, and the like.

Avoid already flooded and high velocity flow areas. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.

If driving, be aware that the road bed may not be intact under flood waters. Turn around and go another way. NEVER drive through flooded roadways!

If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground if you can safely. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants and sweep them away. Remember, it's better to be wet than dead!

Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM AND LIGHTNING SAFETY

If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately!

Move to a sturdy building and stay away from windows. Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.

If a sturdy shelter is not available, get inside a hard top automobile and keep windows up. Beware, though, since vehicles offer poor protection from downburst winds and only fair protection from hail.

Get out of boats and away from water.

Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining weather information. Avoid using the telephone or any electrical appliances. Use phones ONLY in an emergency.

If Caught Outdoors and No Shelter Is Nearby...

Find a low spot away from trees, fences, and poles. Make sure the place you pick is not subject to flooding.

If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shorter trees.

If you feel your skin tingle or your hair stand on end, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Make yourself the smallest target possible, and minimize your contact with the ground.

If you are boating or swimming, get to land and find shelter immediately!