

Severe Weather



Awareness Week

Tornado Safety in Schools

Develop a severe weather action plan and have frequent drills.

Each school should be inspected and tornado shelter areas designated. Basements offer the best protection. Schools without basements should use interior rooms and hallways on the lowest floor and stay away from windows and doors.

Those responsible for activating the plan should monitor NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) or the commercial media for the latest weather information.

If the school's alarm system relies on electricity, have a compressed air horn or megaphone to activate the alarm in case of power failure.

Make special provisions for disabled students or those in portable classrooms. Keep children at school beyond regular hours if threatening weather is expected. Children are safer at school than on busses. Bus drivers must be kept informed of the latest weather conditions while on the road.

Lunch assemblies in large rooms should be delayed if severe weather is expected. Gymnasiums, auditoriums, and often cafeterias offer little protection from tornado-strength winds.

Move students quickly into interior rooms or hallways on the lowest floor. Have them get down on their knees, bend over and cover their head with their hands.



PLAYTIME'S OVER

