



Building a Weather-Ready Nation

Severe Weather Safety and Awareness

- Prepare an emergency kit (www.ready.gov/build-a-kit) and make a family communications plan (<http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>)
- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or commercial radio or television for the latest information.
- Ensure your NOAA Weather Radio has fresh batteries and is set to the correct frequency to receive a warning for your area.
- During a **Severe Thunderstorm Watch or Tornado Watch**, stay aware of weather updates. Locate radio, phone, purse/wallet, blanket and flashlight.
- During a **Severe Thunderstorm Warning or Tornado Warning**, take immediate action to protect yourself and those around you. Go to your safe place. Stay away from windows and doors.
- Mobile homes provide absolutely no protection from high winds. If you live in a mobile home...plan your escape to a nearby sturdy building that will give you proper shelter. At the first sign of an approaching storm go immediately to this building.
- In schools...hospitals...factories...or shopping centers...go to designated shelter areas. Interior halls on the lowest levels are usually the best. Stay away from gymnasiums or auditoriums. Avoid all outside walls and windows.
- In vehicles or outdoors....limit your outdoor plans or finish them early. Stay close to a sturdy shelter. Do not take shelter under a highway overpass...where wind speeds can increase due to a tunneling effect.
- If caught in the open with no shelter nearby...find a ditch...culvert or other low area and lay down flat. Cover your head with your hands for protection.

Severe Weather Resources

Weather Ready Nation - www.weather.gov/com/weatherreadynation/

NWS Severe Storm Ready - www.weather.gov/om/severeweather/index.shtml

NWS Springfield Severe Decision Support Briefing - <http://www.weather.gov/sgf/embrief>

NWS Springfield Hazardous Weather Outlook - <http://www.weather.gov/sgf/EHWO>