

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Albany NY
800 AM EDT Wed Apr 23 2025

...Severe Weather Awareness Week Continues...

Today we review severe weather preparedness and safety. You should prepare now for the upcoming severe weather season. Be smart. Take part. Prepare.

Develop a severe weather plan. Whether at home, school, work, church or when you are outdoors, identify a safe place to take shelter. Have a way to receive the latest weather information. Make sure your wireless phone is charged or keep a portable battery pack. Know what action you will take when a warning is issued. Conduct frequent drills. Information on creating a plan can be found at: <https://www.ready.gov/plan>

Gather emergency supplies. Know your medical needs, including how to manage medication and devices that rely on electricity. Store a few days' worth of non-perishable food and water. Include a first aid kit in your emergency supplies. Keep some cash on hand as ATMs and store point of sale systems may not work during a power outage. For more information please see: https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/ready.gov_power-outage_hazard-info-sheet.pdf

Because all thunderstorms contain deadly lightning, postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are near. Move to a sturdy building or hard topped car. If you are boating or swimming, seek shelter on land immediately. There is no safe place outdoors during a thunderstorm. If you see a flash, dash inside. The National Lightning Safety Council has additional lightning safety information at: <http://www.lightningsafetycouncil.org/>

If a tornado warning is issued, move to a pre designated place of safety, preferably a basement or interior room. Stay away from windows. Get as low to the floor as possible and cover your head. Be aware of flying debris. Flying debris causes most fatalities and injuries during a tornado. Mobile and manufactured homes offer little protection from tornadoes. Evacuate mobile and manufactured homes and move to your designated place of shelter. Additional tornado safety information can be found at: <https://www.weather.gov/safety/tornado>

After the severe weather has cleared, if the power is out, use flashlights for light. Avoid using flammable objects such as candles or lanterns which can cause fires. Assume all downed wires are energized and can electrocute you. Report broken power lines to the utility company. Do not run generators indoors as poisonous carbon monoxide can build up.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, relays National Weather Service tornado and flash flood warnings through cellular carriers to smart phones and other wireless devices. Many local television and radio stations also broadcast weather alerts. Rechargeable radios with NOAA weather radio and AM and FM are available.

More information is at www.weather.gov/albany or on social media @NWSAlbany.

Tomorrow we look at tornadoes.

NWS Albany