



# National Weather Service

[www.weather.gov/wichita](http://www.weather.gov/wichita)

## Severe Weather Reports

**Report using the T-E-L approach**  
T=Time E=Event L=Location  
Example: "I saw a tornado at 4:43pm approximately 2 miles south of my location which is 4 miles NW of El Dorado"



### TORNADOES



**Tornado:** A violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground.



**Wall Cloud:** A persistent, often abrupt lowering at the cloud's rain-free base.

### FUNNEL CLOUDS



**Funnel Cloud:** A rapidly rotating column of air, extending downward from the thunderstorm base, but **NOT** in contact with the ground.

**Contact your local authorities**

**Damaging Winds:** Report winds 50 mph or greater and any tree or structure damage either presently occurring or recently occurred.

**> 58 mph:** Whole trees in motion; twigs and small limbs break off trees

**58-72 mph:** Severe Thunderstorm criteria begins. Shingles torn off or minor structural damage; breaks off large limbs; pushes over shallow rooted trees

**73-112 mph:** Substantial roof and structural damage; windows broken; trailer houses overturned; large trees uprooted

**113+ mph:** Roofs torn off houses; weak buildings and trailer houses destroyed

### DAMAGING WINDS

### WALL CLOUD

**Contact your local authorities**

### HAIL

Report referencing a coin, sports ball or citrus

**5/8" : Dime**

**3/4" : Penny**

**7/8" : Nickel**

**1" : Quarter**

**1 1/4" : Half Dollar**

**1 3/4" : Golf Ball**

**2 1/2" : Tennis Ball**

**2 3/4" : Baseball**

**4" : Grapefruit**

Avoid using marble size, which could be many sizes

**Flash Flooding: Report...**

- water standing on, or flowing over roads.
- Roads that are washed out.
- People or vehicles swept away by flowing water.
- Rivers or streams out of their banks.
- Heavy rains in excess of an inch per hour.

### FLASH FLOODING