



Maryland

Severe Storms Awareness Week

April 7th through April 13th



Mon: Flooding | Tue: Damaging Winds | Wed: Tornadoes | Thu: Hail | Fri: Lightning

Be Weather Prepared!

Get the Warning | Have a Plan | Practice!



- ◆ Visit mema.maryland.gov
- ◆ Download the FEMA App!
- ◆ Download the MEMA "MD Prepares" App!

Monday, April 8th - Flooding



Facts:

- ⇒ Most flood fatalities are the result of people attempting to drive across flooded roadways.
- ⇒ Another large segment of flood fatalities are the result of people attempting to walk or swim across flooded areas or slipping into flooded waters.
- ⇒ 67% of fatalities were male.

Safety:

- ⇒ Never enter an area where water is over a road if it is too deep to see the pavement!
- ⇒ Night driving is dangerous during flooding. Your ability to see flooded roads is greatly diminished at night, making it easier to drive into a flooded roadway.

FLOODING AHEAD
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN



Facts:

Tuesday, April 9th - Damaging Winds

- ⇒ Damaging winds cause most of the tree and structure damage during thunderstorms
- ⇒ A *Severe Thunderstorm Warning* means damaging winds or hail will occur somewhere within the warning area (if not throughout) within 30-60 minutes.
- ⇒ These microbursts are like 'punches' of wind from the most intense part of the storm, that can reach speeds up to 120 mph!

Safety:

- ⇒ If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued, or you encounter strong winds, get to a sturdy shelter away from windows!





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Wednesday, April 10th - Tornadoes

Facts:

- ⇒ Think MD does not get them? We had 27 in 2012 alone, and close to 100 in the past 10 years!
- ⇒ They range in strength from those that knock down trees & strip shingles - to those that cause widespread devastation.

Safety:

- ⇒ Go to the lowest floor, in a small interior room or hallway—away from windows!
- ⇒ Mobile homes are not safe! Have a plan. where you will go.

Practice:

- ⇒ Participate in the statewide tornado drill on Wednesday April 10th at 9:45 am.



2002 La Plata, MD tornado

Thursday, April 11th - Hail



Facts:

- ⇒ Hail is a ball of ice formed in the extreme turbulence of strong thunderstorms.
- ⇒ Rain freezes and re-freezes, sometimes allowing the ice to grow as large as the size of softballs—even in Maryland!

Safety:

- ⇒ Hail is only formed in strong, dangerous storms. If you witness hail—get indoors!
- ⇒ The larger the hail, the more dangerous the storm.

Friday, April 12th - Lightning



Facts:

- ⇒ Over 98% of lightning casualties are from people outdoors.
- ⇒ The most frequent fatalities are from the outer fringes of the storm, outside of the rain area, where people think they are safe.
- ⇒ Can strike over 10 miles from the rain area!

Safety:

- ⇒ If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck from a fringe stroke.
- ⇒ Get indoors or inside your vehicle!