



Have you ever sat down with your family to discuss and plan what you would do in case of an immediate weather threat? If you haven't, now would be an excellent time to sit down with your family and devise a plan. Finding the time to do this can be difficult, but taking the 15 minutes to develop and practice a plan could save the lives of ones you love. Please remember these tips when planning and carrying out your actions.

## Tornado Safety Tips

### Before the storm:

- Develop a plan of action
- Practice the Plan/Hold a drill
- Have a NOAA Weather Radio with a warning alarm tone
- Listen to radio and television for information
- If planning a trip outdoors, listen to forecasts

### In Homes or Small Buildings:

Go to the basement or to an interior room on the lowest floor (e.g. closet or bathroom). Upper floors are unsafe. Protect your head by wearing a sports or bike helmet and use blankets to protect yourself from flying debris.

### In Schools, Hospitals, Factories, or Shopping Centers:

Go to interior rooms and halls on the lowest floor. Stay away from glass enclosed places or areas with wide span roofs such as auditoriums and warehouses. Crouch down and cover your head. Don't take shelter in halls that open to the south or the west. Centrally-located stairwells are good shelter.

### If a warning is issued or threatening weather approaches

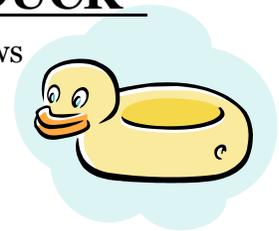
- Always remember **“DUCK”**
- Stay away from windows

**“DUCK”**

**Down to the lowest level  
Under something sturdy**

**Cover your head**

**Keep in the shelter until  
the storm has passed**



### In High-Rise Buildings:

Go to interior small rooms or halls on the lowest floor. Stay away from exterior walls or areas with glass.

### In Mobile Homes:

**ABANDON THEM IMMEDIATELY!!!**

Many deaths occur in mobile homes. If you are in a mobile home when severe weather approaches, leave it immediately and go to a substantial structure or designated tornado shelter. Determine your shelter ahead of time so you don't have to think about it when weather strikes. If no shelter is available, get in your vehicle and drive to the nearest shelter.

# Tornadoes and Traveling

If you observe an approaching tornado while driving, you should attempt seek shelter in a basement, shelter, or sturdy building. If no shelter is available and you are unable to safely drive away and flying debris is approaching:

- If you are a considerable distance away, drive your car in the opposite path of the tornado. If time does not allow you to drive away, consider the following:
- Pull over and park. Now you have the following options as a last resort:
- Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a blanket if possible.
- If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, exit your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.
- Your choice in this last resort situation should be driven by your specific circumstances.

