

Spring Weather Safety

Know Your Risk

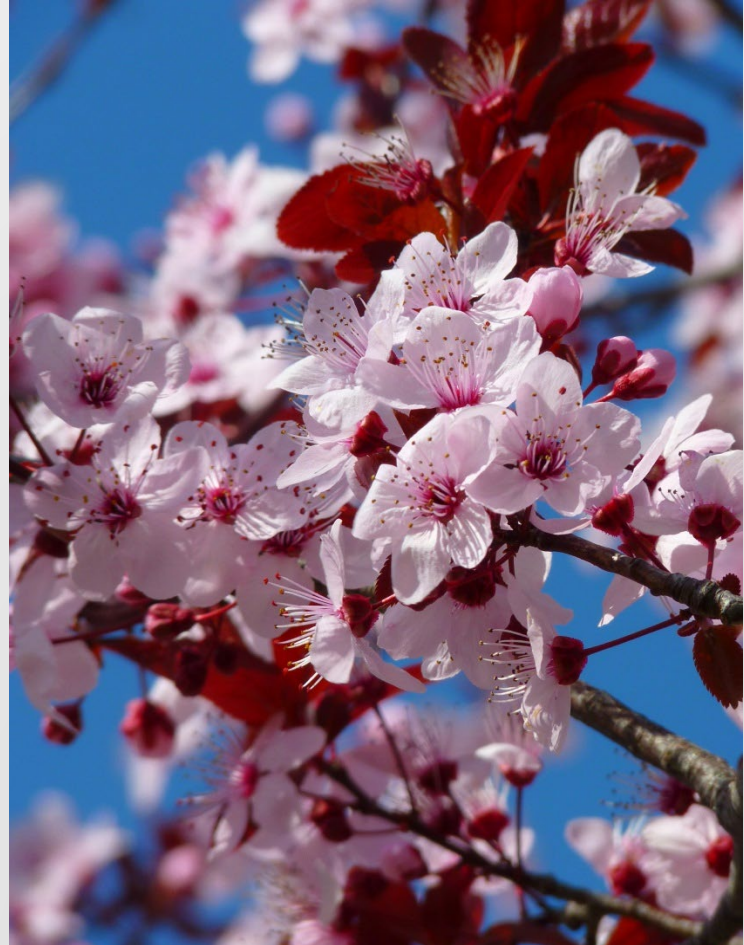
Take Action

Be a Force of Nature



Spring Weather Safety

- Rip Currents
- Tornadoes
- Thunderstorms
- Lightning
- Flooding
- Tsunamis
- Heat
- Spring Break Safety



Spring Weather Safety

Rip Current

- Beach flags help alert swimmers about potential dangers such as high surf or strong rip currents
- Look for beach flags before you enter the water
- If caught in a rip current, swim parallel to the beach to escape



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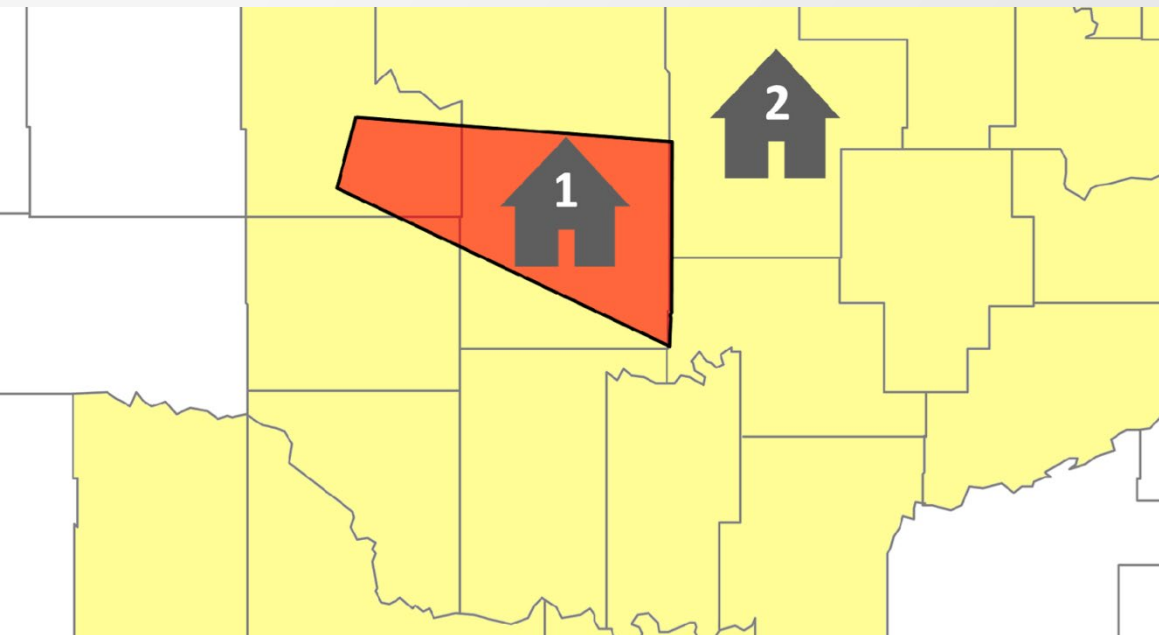
Tornadoes

- Winds from tornadoes can exceed 200 mph
- Flying debris is most dangerous
- Seek a sturdy shelter in an interior room away from windows on the lowest floor and cover your head
- Every tornado should be seen as life-threatening



Spring Weather Safety

NWS Tornado Products



Tornado Warning

Tornado expected! Seek shelter.
A tornado is occurring or will shortly at this location on the map.

Tornado Watch

Tornado possible. Be prepared.
Weather conditions favor thunderstorms capable of producing tornadoes at this location on the map.



Spring Weather Safety

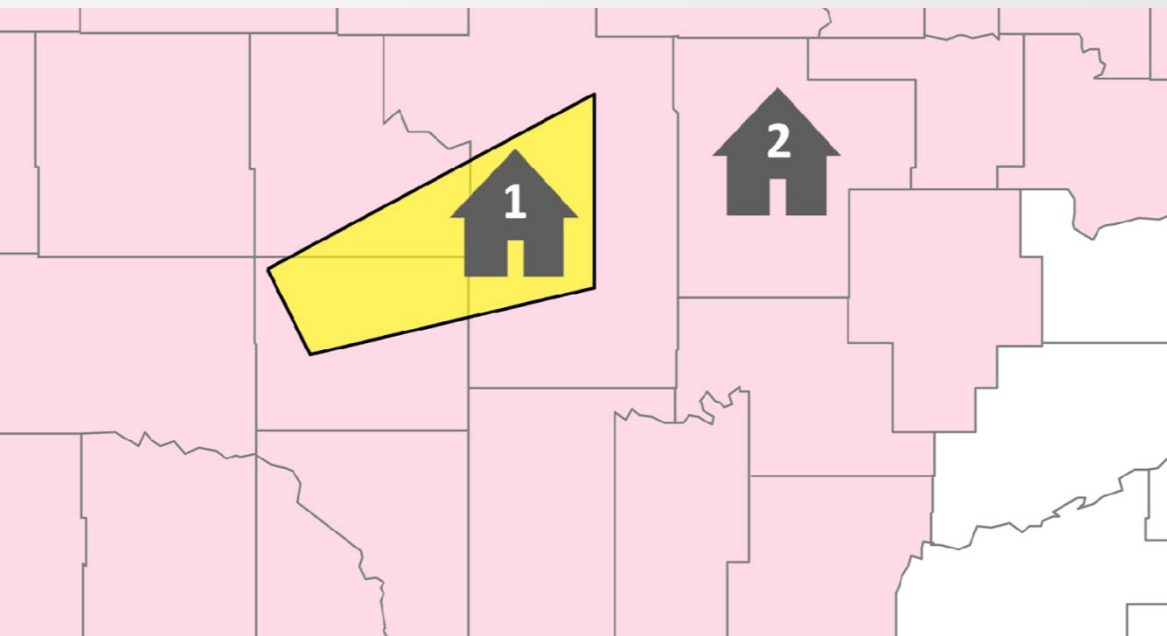
Thunderstorms

- Severe thunderstorms produce damaging wind and/or large hail
- Take shelter in a sturdy structure away from windows – a basement or cellar would be best
- A vehicle is safer than being outside



Spring Weather Safety

NWS Severe Thunderstorm Products



Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Severe storms expected! Seek shelter.
Large hail or damaging wind is occurring
or will shortly at this location on the map.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch

Severe storms possible. Be prepared.
Weather conditions favor thunderstorms
capable of producing large hail or
damaging wind at this location on the map.



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Lightning

- Thunderstorms produce lightning
- Lightning kills an average of 30 people every year
- Take shelter inside a sturdy structure
- A hard-topped vehicle is also a safe location



Spring Weather Safety

Flooding

- Flooding can be caused by snow melt, ice jams, and heavy rain
- More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related
- Never drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade



Spring Weather Safety

Snow Melt

- Water stored in the snowpack goes into the rivers when the snow melts in spring
- Spring flooding can affect large river basins
- Never drive through flood waters and obey road signs



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Ice Jams

- Ice jam flooding occurs when chunks of ice build up and prevent water from flowing downstream
- This can lead to rapid rises upstream from the ice jam
- Never drive through flood waters



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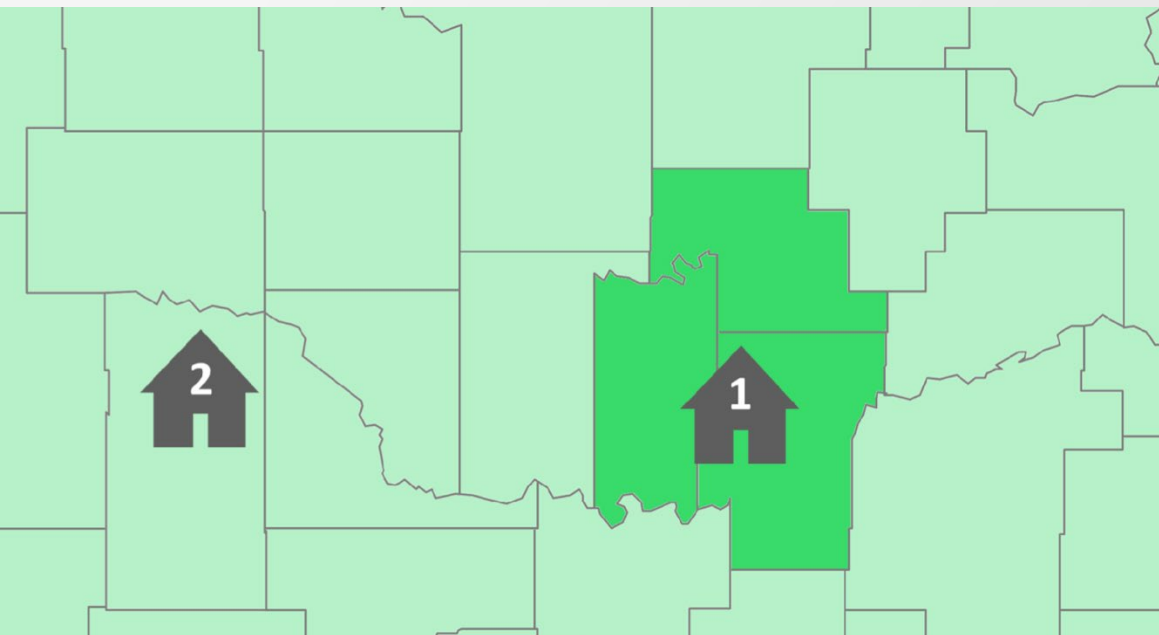
Heavy Rain

- Heavy rain on saturated soil can lead to flooding
- More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related
- It only takes 12 inches of rushing water to carry away a small car
- Turn around, don't drown!



Spring Weather Safety

NWS Flood Products



Flood Warning

Flooding expected! Take Action. Confidence is high that flooding which poses a significant threat to life and property is occurring or will shortly. Seek higher ground if you are in a flood-prone area. Never drive through flood waters!

Flood Watch

Flooding possible. Be Prepared. Confidence is medium that flooding may develop. Find out if you are in a flood-prone area. Check the forecast and be ready to take action if a flood warning is issued.

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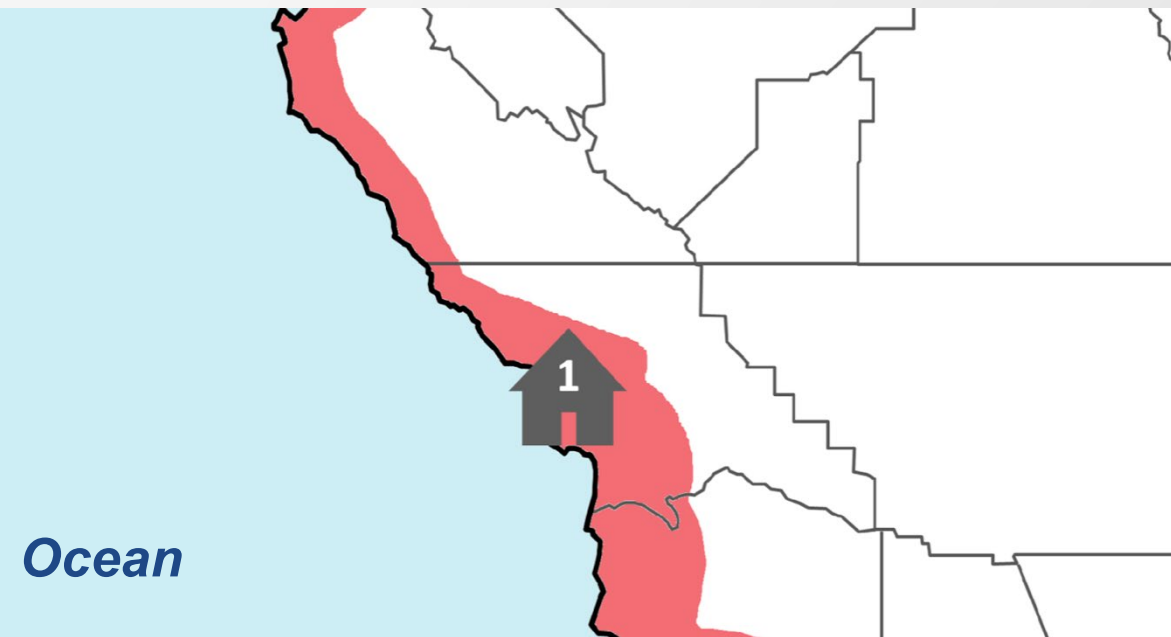
Tsunamis

- A tsunami is one of the most powerful and destructive forces of nature
- Know nature's warnings: strong or long quake, sudden ocean rise or fall, ocean roar
- Respond to warnings: move to high ground or inland



Spring Weather Safety

NWS Tsunami Products



1 Tsunami Warning

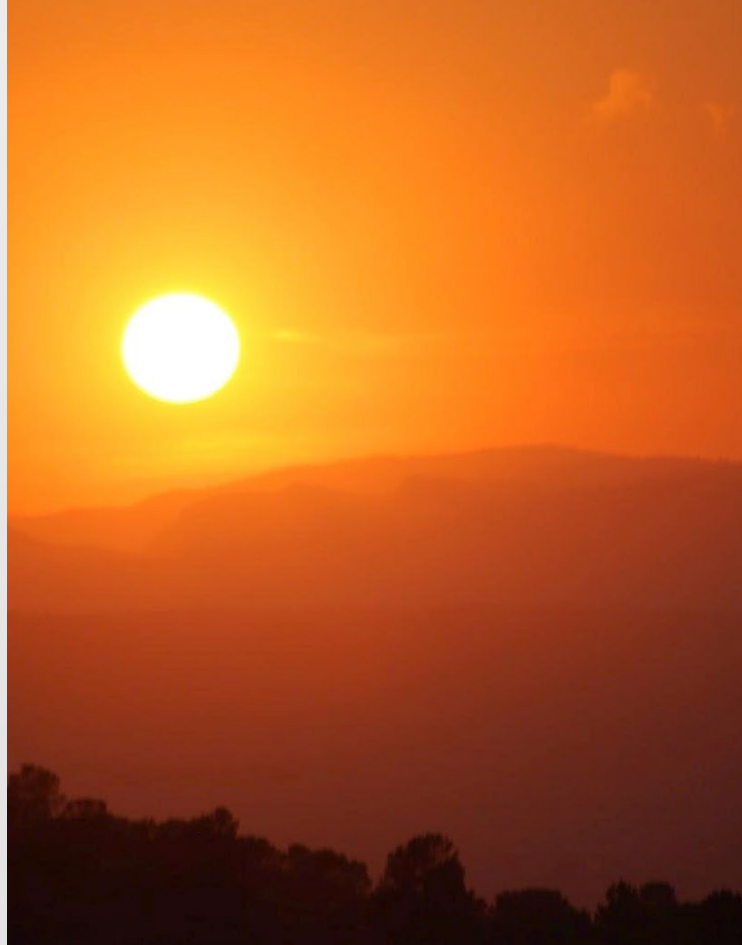
A Tsunami is expected! Take Action! Danger! A tsunami that may cause widespread flooding is expected or occurring. Dangerous coastal flooding and powerful currents are possible and may continue for several hours or days after initial arrival. Move to high ground or inland immediately!



Spring Weather Safety

Heat Safety

- Heat and humidity take a toll on the body
- Know the signs of heat illness
- Reschedule outdoor work and strenuous activities until the coolest time of the day
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water



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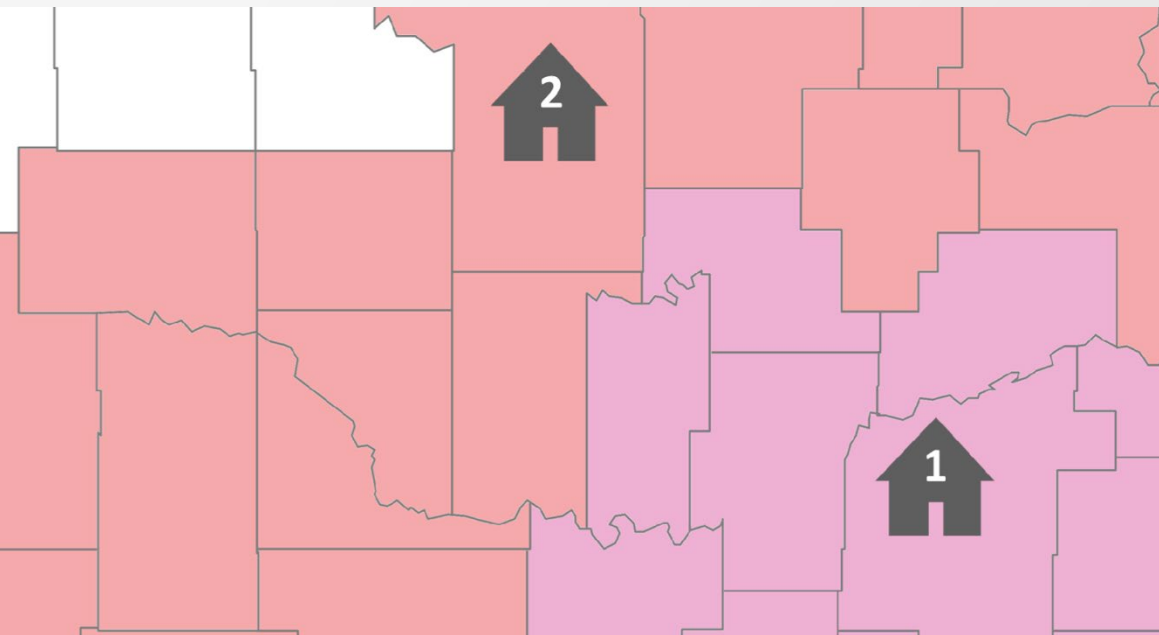
Heat Safety

- Sunburn and heat illness can be avoided
- Apply and reapply sunscreen to protect your skin from sunburn
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water



Spring Weather Safety

NWS Heat Products



Excessive Heat Warning

Excessive Heat Expected! Take Action. Confidence is high that extremely hot weather will cause significant stress on the people and animals unless precautionary measures are taken. Avoid direct sunlight, drink plenty of fluids, and find a cool indoor place is possible.

Excessive Heat Watch

Excessive Heat Possible. Be Prepared. Confidence is medium that extremely hot weather will develop across the region. Have a plan in place to avoid strenuous activity during the warmest parts of the day. Make sure children, elderly, and pets are taken care of in case extreme heat develops.

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More Information

- Visit the National Weather Service Safety pages
 - weather.gov/safety/tornado
 - weather.gov/safety/thunderstorm
 - weather.gov/safety/lightning
 - weather.gov/safety/flood
 - weather.gov/safety/tsunami
 - weather.gov/safety/heat
 - weather.gov/safety/ripcurrent



weather.gov/safety