



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Building a Weather-Ready Nation

Summer Weather Safety



Know Your Risk, Take Action, Be a Force of Nature

weather.gov/safety

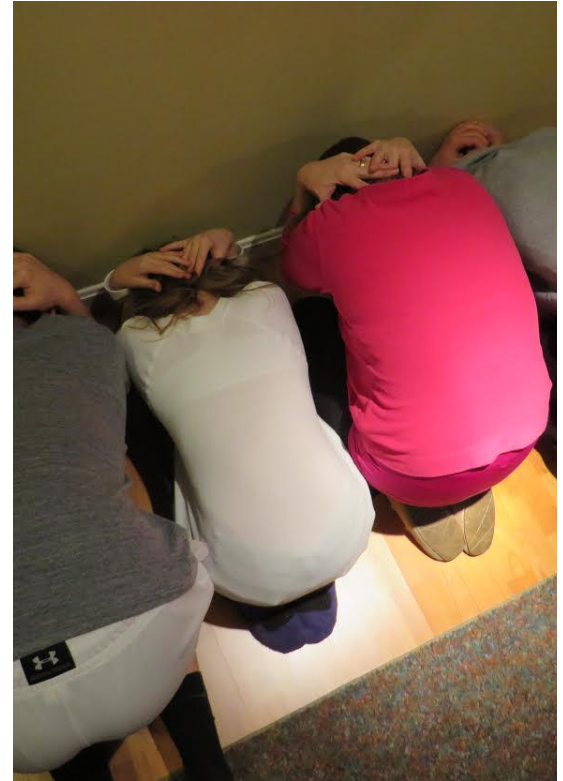
Summer Weather Hazards

- Tornadoes, Thunderstorms, and Lightning
- Flooding
- Heat
- Hurricanes
- Rip Currents, Dangerous Waves
- Wildfire and Air Quality
- Drought



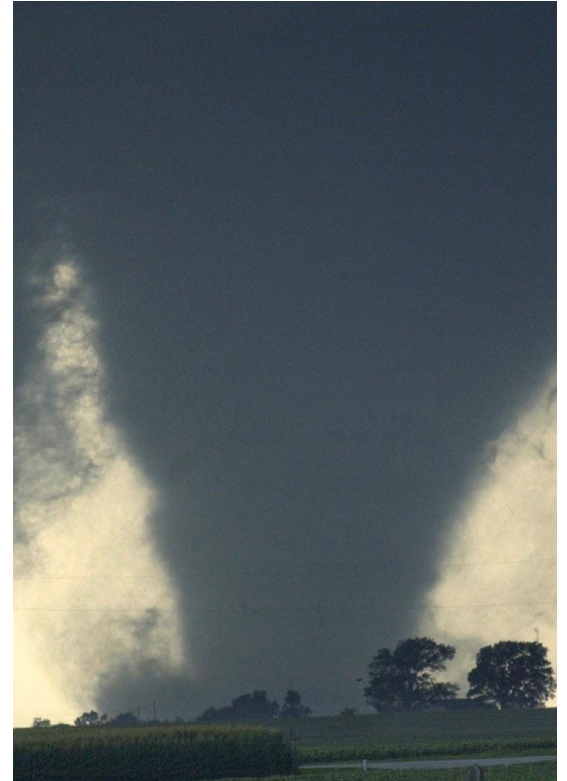
Severe Weather

- Thunderstorms can produce tornadoes, strong wind, large hail, and lightning
- Practice a severe weather plan for home and work
- Make a communications plan so you can contact loved ones

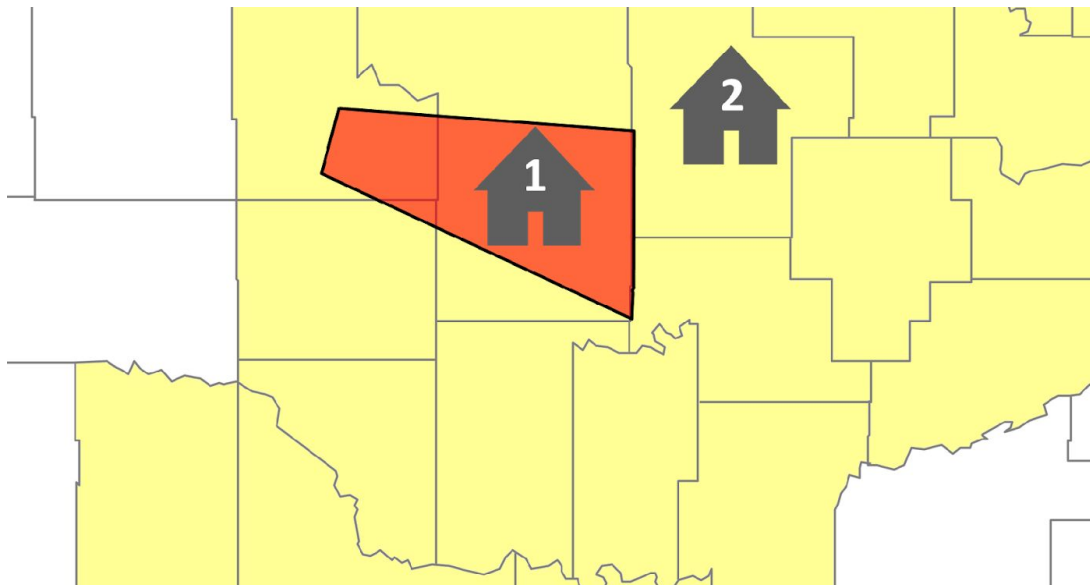


Tornadoes

- 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



NWS Tornado Products

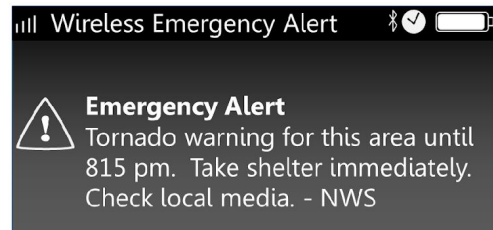


Tornado Warning

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.

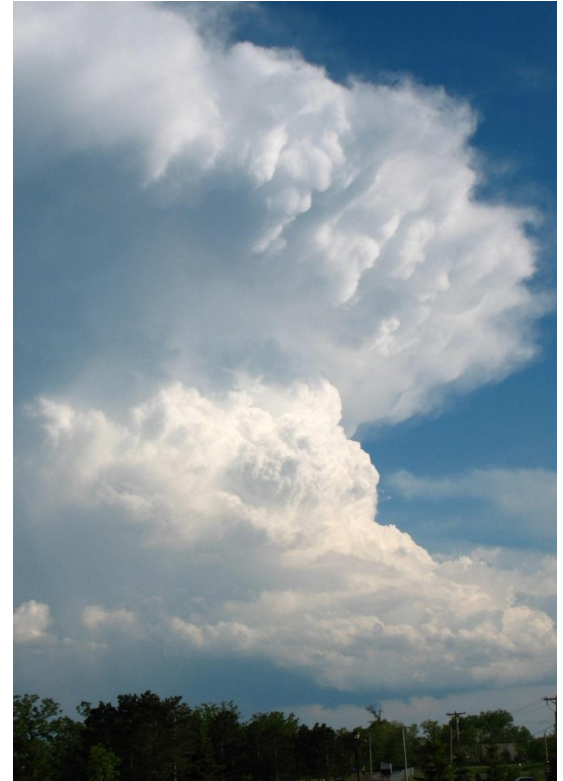


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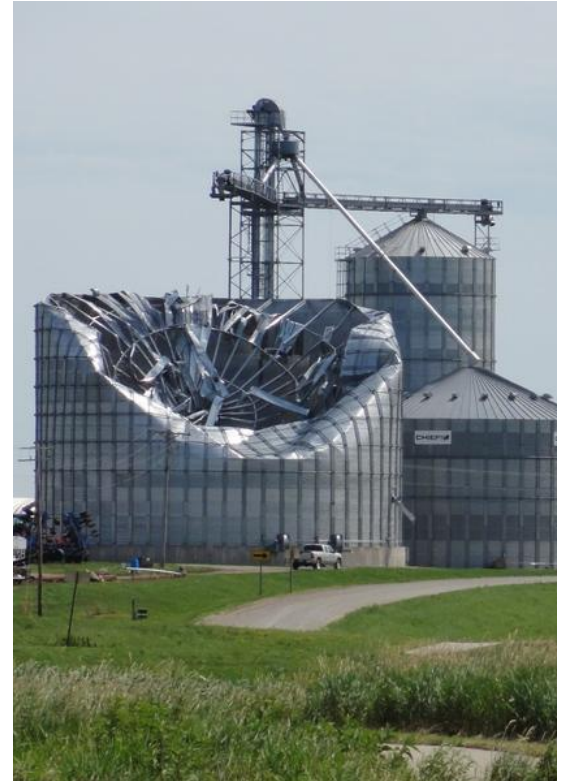
Thunderstorms

- Severe thunderstorms produce strong wind and/or large hail
- Take shelter in a sturdy structure away from windows
- A vehicle is also a safe location when there is no other nearby shelter



Thunderstorms

- Conditions can change rapidly with thunderstorms nearby or overhead
- Don't second-guess how a thunderstorm will evolve
- Take shelter before the storm and remain there through an all-clear signal from the NWS

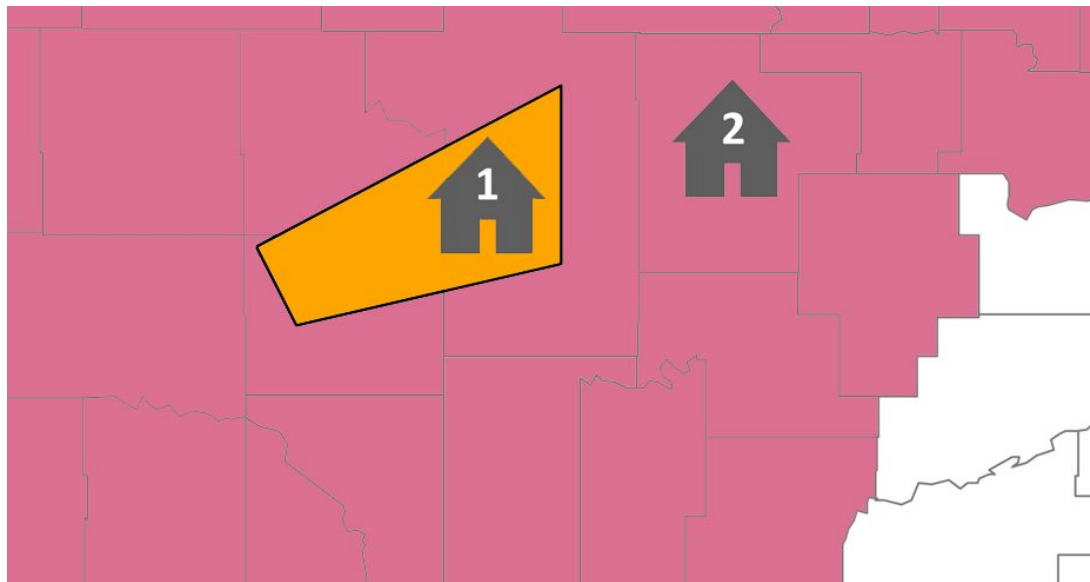


Thunderstorms

- Strong wind gusts from thunderstorms can create dust storms
- Dust storms can reduce visibility and make travel difficult
- If travelling, prepare to reduce speed and pull over to the side of the road



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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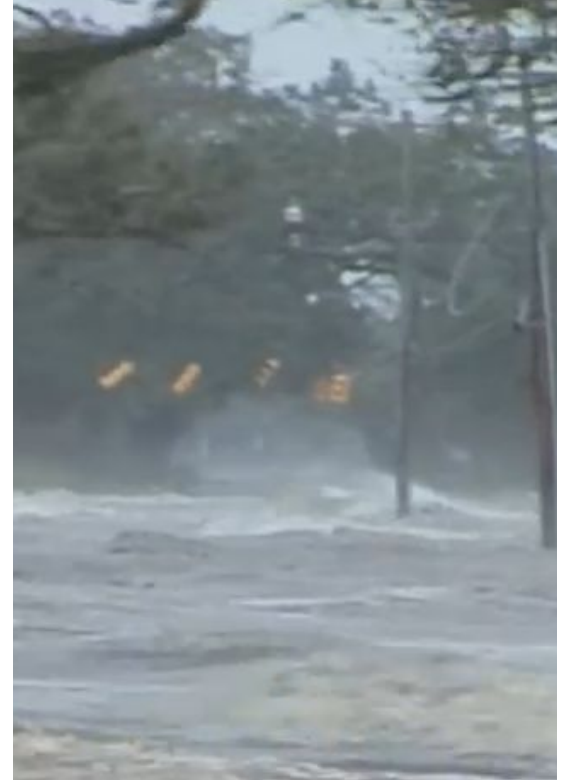
Lightning

- All 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



Hurricanes

- Tropical storms and hurricanes can produce deadly flooding
- Storm surge is ocean water that is brought inland and floods areas along the coast
- Heavy rain can cause flooding hundreds of miles inland



Hurricanes

- Prepare your home by protecting it from flying debris
- Board up windows with plywood or approved shutters
- Bring in loose items from outside such as lawn furniture
- Secure your boat if you have one

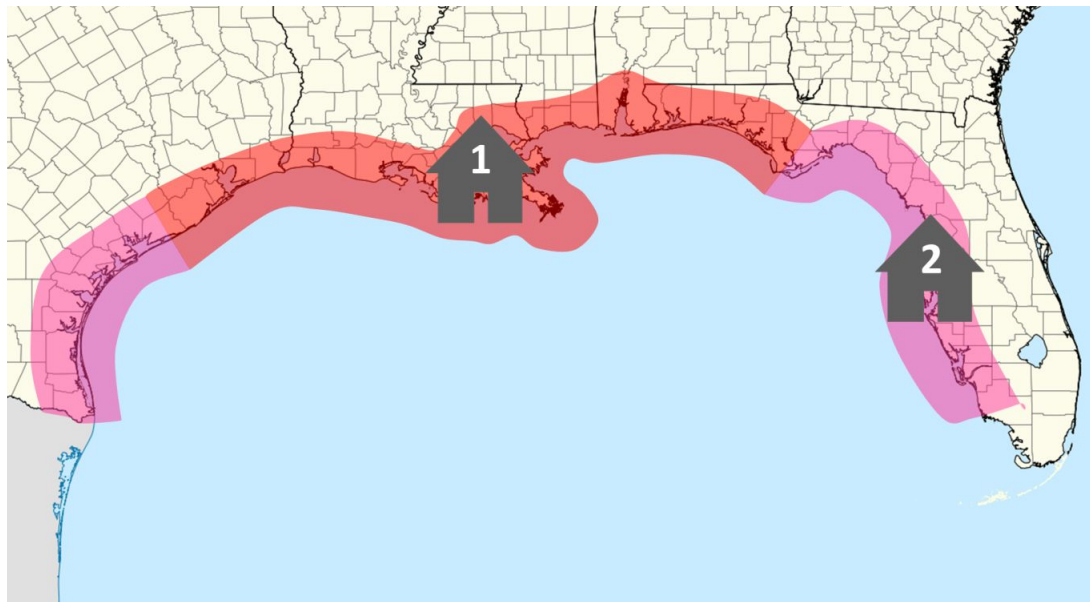


Hurricanes

- Hurricanes can strengthen quickly
- Listen to local authorities and follow evacuation orders
- Drive carefully and contact your loved ones once you've reached your safe location



NWS Hurricane Products

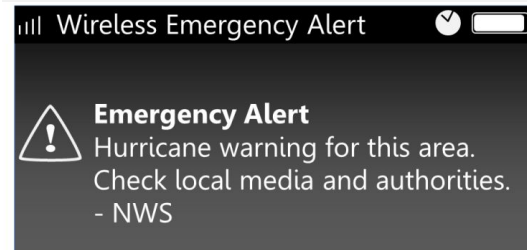


Hurricane Warning

Hurricane expected! Seek shelter.
Hurricane force winds are expected in your area. Seek shelter in a sturdy structure or evacuate if needed.

Hurricane Watch

Hurricane possible. Be prepared.
Hurricane force winds are possible in your area. Prepare your home by boarding up windows and moving loose items indoors. Have an emergency supply kit ready.



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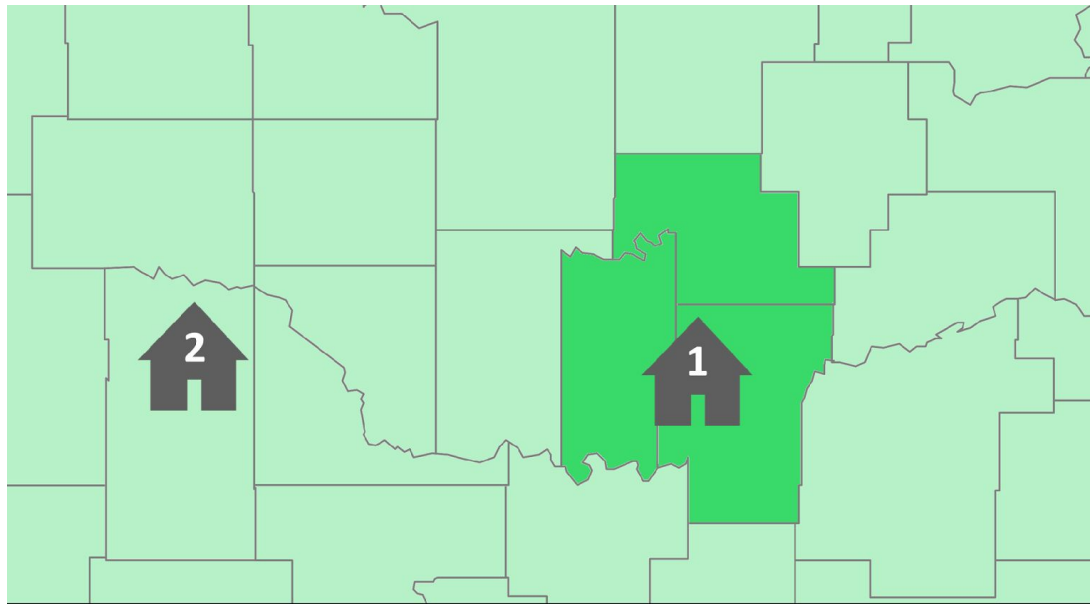
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Flooding

- Flooding is often caused by heavy rain in the summer
- More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related
- Never drive through flood waters



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.

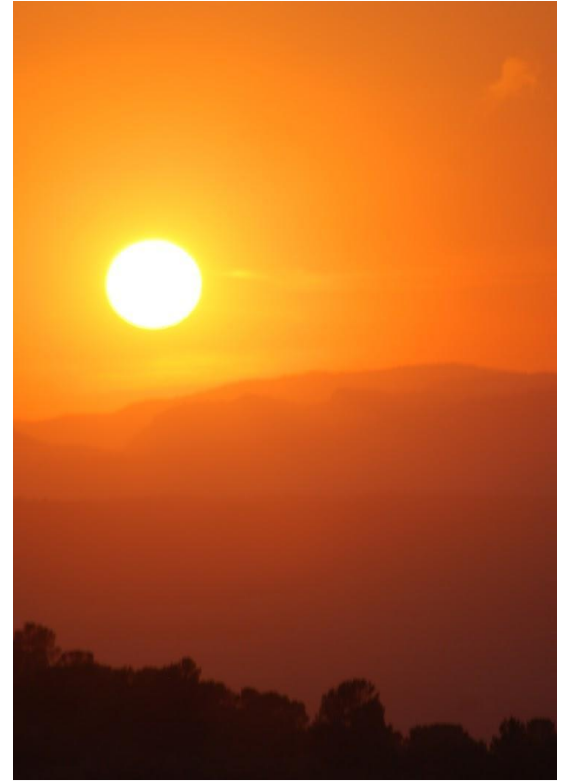


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Extreme Heat

- 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

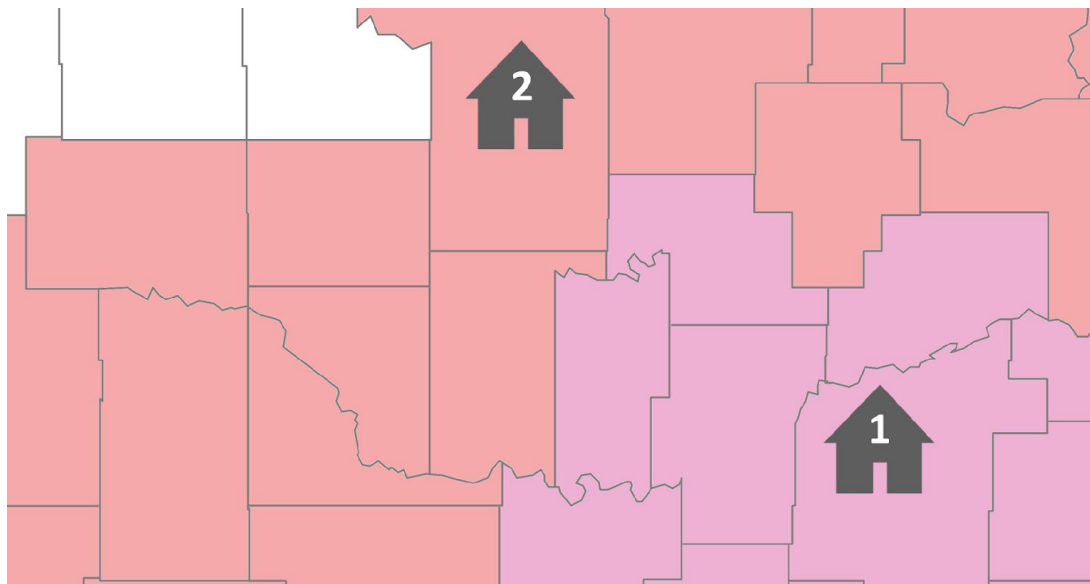


Extreme Heat

- Sunburn and heat illness can be avoided
- Apply and reapply sunscreen to protect your skin from sunburn
- NEVER leave children or pets in parked, unattended vehicles



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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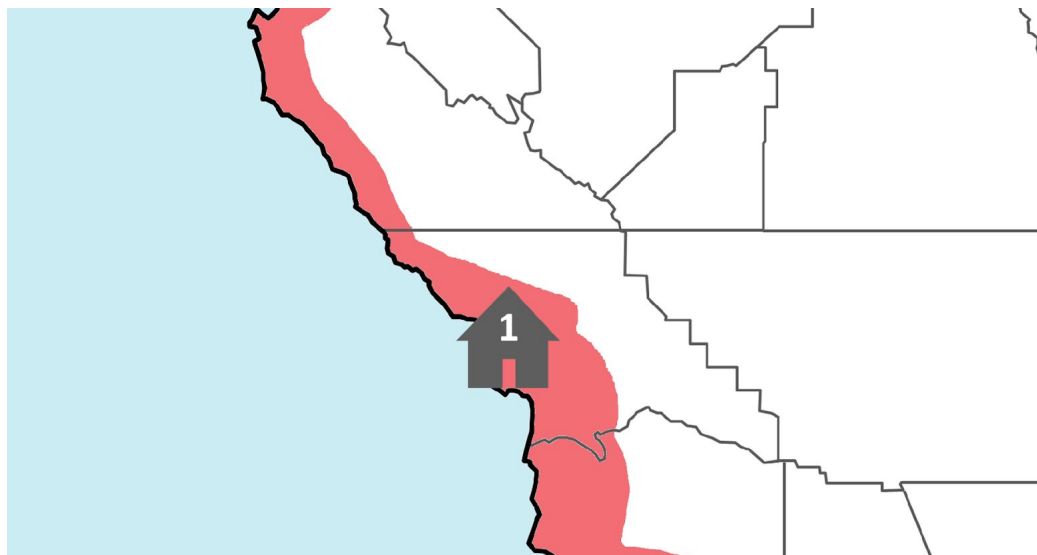
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Tsunamis

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




NWS Tsunami Products



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!

Wireless Emergency Alert

 **Emergency Alert**
Tsunami danger on the coast. Go to high ground or move inland. Listen to local news. - NWS



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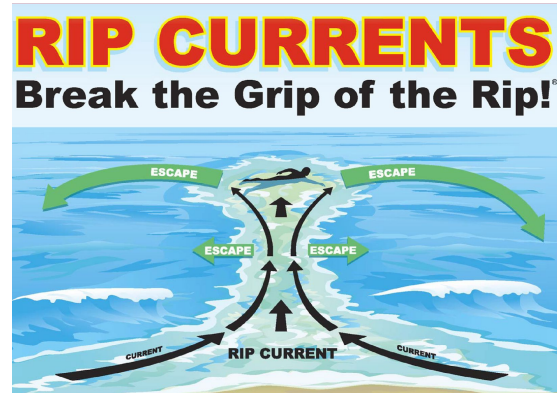
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Rip Currents

- Millions of people will travel to the beach this summer
- Learn about rip currents before heading to the beach
- Plan your trip by checking the forecast at weather.gov/beach



NWS Rip Current Products



Rip Current Statement

Rip Currents are Expected! Use Caution. Conditions are favorable for rip currents along the beach. If you are caught in a rip current, escape by swimming in a direction following the shoreline until you are out of the rip current.



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Wildfire

- Wildfires are most often started by lightning or humans
- Stay with your fire when camping
- Fully extinguish your fire when finished
- Never burn on dry windy days



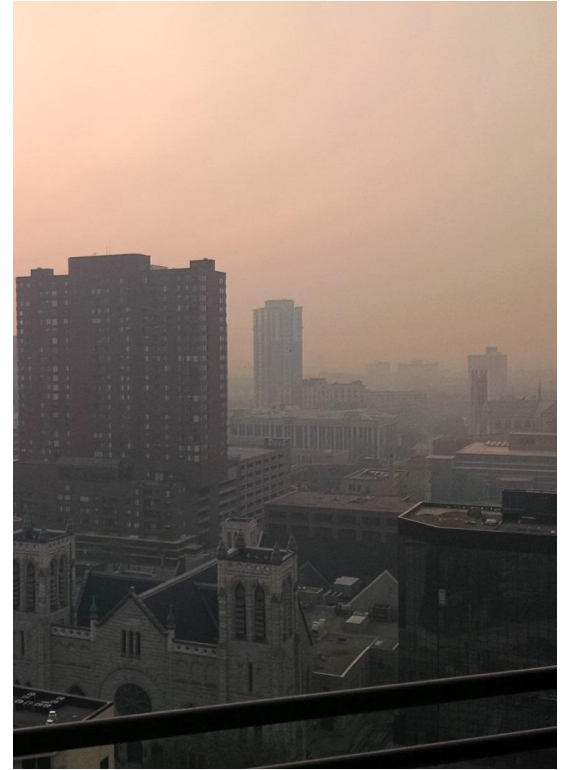
Wildfire

- If you encounter a wildfire, drive or walk away from the smoke and flames immediately
 - Call 911 and report the fire
- If told to evacuate, follow instructions from local officials
 - Follow the evacuation route and contact loved ones once you've reach safety



Air Quality

- Smoke from wildfires can travel thousands of miles and cause poor air quality
- Keep door and windows closed to reduce infiltration into your home



Air Quality

- Exhaust from vehicles is another source of air pollution
- Harmful buildup of ground-level ozone can enhance health problems such as asthma
- Limit strenuous outdoor activity on days with poor air quality



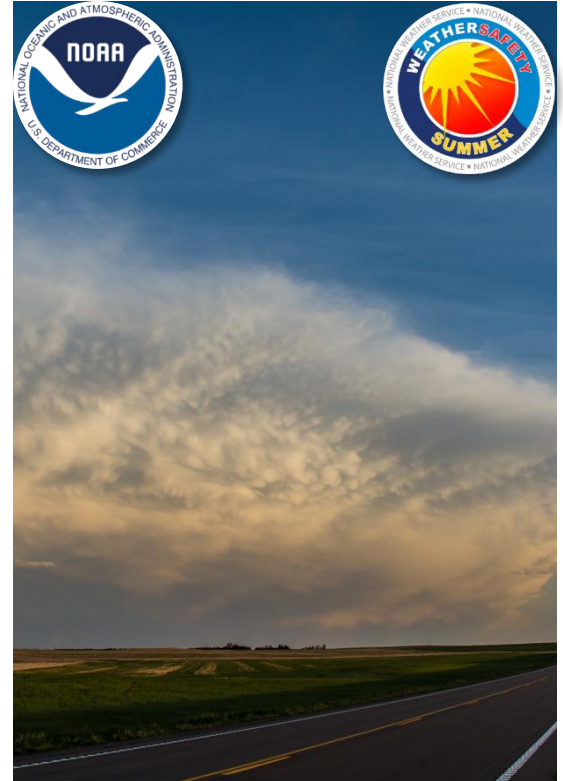
Drought

- The heat of summer can cause short-term droughts which affect vegetation and agriculture
- Long term droughts can impact large reservoirs and the people that depend on them
- Implement water conservation efforts to minimize drought



Summer Weather Safety Resources

weather.gov/safety/tornado
weather.gov/safety/thunderstorm
weather.gov/safety/lightning
weather.gov/safety/flood
weather.gov/safety/heat
weather.gov/safety/hurricane
weather.gov/safety/tsunami
weather.gov/safety/wildfire
weather.gov/safety/airquality
weather.gov/safety/ripcurrent



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