

TORNADO SAFETY

INFORMATION FROM FEMA

Know your Tornado Terms

Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify a tornado hazard.

Tornado Watch

- ☩ Tornadoes are possible
- ☩ Remain alert for approaching storms
- ☩ Watch the sky and stay tuned to the National Oceanic

Tornado Warning

- ☩ A tornado has been sighted or indicated by a weather radar
- ☩ Take shelter immediately

What to do BEFORE a tornado


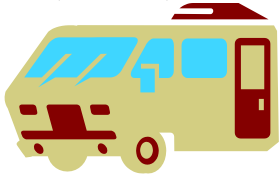

Be alert to changing weather conditions.

- ☩ Listen to NOAA Weather Radio or to commercial radio or television newscasts for the latest information.
- ☩ Look for approaching storms
- ☩ Look for the following danger signs:
 - △ Dark, often greenish sky
 - △ Large hail
 - △ A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly rotating)
 - △ Loud roar, similar to freight train

If you see approaching storms or any of the danger signs, be prepared to take shelter immediately.

What to do DURING a tornado

If you are under a tornado WARNING, seek shelter immediately!

If you are...	Then...
<p>...in a structure (e.g. residence, small building, nursing home, hospital, factory, shopping center, high-rise building)</p> 	<p>...go to a pre-designated shelter area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. Do not open windows.</p>
<p>...in a vehicle, trailer, or mobile home</p> 	<p>Get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.</p>
<p>...outside with no shelter</p> 	<p>...lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of the potential for flooding. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location. Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter. Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.</p>