



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Thunderstorm,
Tornado Safety

Watch
vs. Warning

Prepare for
a Tornado

During a
Tornado

After
a Tornado



Tornadoes, Wind, Hail

Valid Tornado and Severe
Thunderstorm Warnings

Lightning Safety

Flood Safety

StormReady!

Tornado Basics

Severe Thunderstorm Archive

Natl. Severe Storms Lab Research

Outreach and Education

Links for More Information



Tornado Safety

- The Safest place to be is an underground shelter, basement or safe room.
- If no underground shelter or safe room is available, a small, windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest level of a sturdy building is the safest alternative.
- Mobile homes are not safe during tornadoes or other severe winds.
- If you are caught outdoors, seek shelter in a basement, shelter or sturdy building.
- If you cannot quickly walk to a shelter immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter. If you see large objects flying past while you are driving, pull over and park. You now have two choices:
 - 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, in a deep ditch for instance, exit your car and lie in the area, covering your head with your hands.

Specific procedures for shelter-in-place at a worksite may include the following:

- Close the business.
- If there are customers, clients, or visitors in the building, provide for their safety by asking them to stay – not leave. When authorities provide directions to shelter-in-place, they want everyone to take those steps immediately. Do not drive or walk outdoors.

Unless there is an imminent threat, ask employees, customers, clients and visitors to call their emergency contact to let them know where they are and that they are safe.