





Effective Severe Weather Planning Strategy for Families, Large Outdoor Events, and Businesses

<p>Plan</p> 	<p>Use this guide to develop a weather safety plan. Address each weather threat as it applies to your home, your location and your employees (flood, hail, blizzard, extreme heat/cold, tornado, and extreme wind).</p> <p>Consider time of day when safety planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peak tornado occurrence is 4-9 pm • Peak high wind occurrence is 4-9 pm
<p>Practice</p> 	<p>Awareness training—Conduct meetings to make sure everyone knows the plan.</p> <p>Practice the plan—conduct awareness briefings/drills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate time needed to shelter • Evaluate suitability of shelters <p>Other ways to prepare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe Weather Awareness Week—participate in tornado drill day • Attend storm spotter training
<p>Monitor</p> 	<p>Have a designated Weather Watcher to monitor the sky and NWS “watches” and “warnings.”</p> <p>Available information, before, during, after a storm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlook: what to expect that day • Watch: within a few hours • Warning: severe thunderstorm, tornado within an hour (or minutes!) • Have a NOAA Weather Radio available to monitor severe weather information • Online weather information—http://www.weather.gov/grb • Smart phone app to monitor the weather and receive warnings <p>Two-way communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get information from your weather watchers • Get the word out to family members, your employees, and spectators/participants
<p>Act</p> 	<p>Be proactive.</p> <p>Establish sheltering/response criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on watches, warnings, reports, other? • Consider how much time you need for people to reach shelter <p>How will action be initiated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means of communication • Backup plan <p>Where will people go?</p> <p>Appropriate shelter? Recommended safe rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interior of building • Room without windows • Roof tied to walls; walls tied to foundation • Protection from “missiles” (flying objects) • FEMA safe room guidelines—http://www.fema.gov/safe-rooms • NWS school/building safety—http://www.weather.gov/grb/schools <p>Enough space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors, especially large groups • People leading the group must have and know the safety plan • Enough time to get there • How will you communicate an “all-clear”?