

Effective Severe Weather Planning Strategy for



Families, Large Outdoor Events, and Businesses

Plan

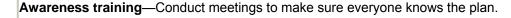


Use this guide to **develop a weather safety plan**. Address each weather threat as it applies to your home, your location and your employees (flood, hail, blizzard, extreme heat/cold, tornado, and extreme wind).

Consider time of day when safety planning.

- Peak tornado occurrence is 4-9 pm
- Peak high wind occurrence is 4-9 pm

Practice





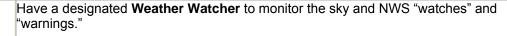
Practice the plan—conduct awareness briefings/drills:

- Evaluate time needed to shelter
- Evaluate suitability of shelters

Other ways to prepare:

- Severe Weather Awareness Week-participate in tornado drill day
- · Attend storm spotter training

Monitor





Available information, before, during, after a storm:

- 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

Two-way communication:

- Get information from your weather watchers
- Get the word out to family members, your employees, and spectators/participants

Act





Establish sheltering/response criteria:

- Based on watches, warnings, reports, other?
- Consider how much time you need for people to reach shelter

How will action be initiated?

- Means of communication
- Backup plan

Where will people go?

Appropriate shelter? Recommended safe rooms:

- Interior of building
- Room without windows
- Roof tied to walls; walls tied to foundation
- FEMA safe room guidelines—http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/saferoom
- New construction or retrofit
- Protection from "missiles" (flying objects)

Enough space?

- 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"?