

Weather Safety & Preparedness

Adapted from [weather.gov/safety](https://www.weather.gov/safety)



WEATHER ALERT
ALERTS FORECASTS AGRICULTURE

Emergency Planning & Preparedness

- ✦ **Family Communications Plan:** Establish out-of-town contacts & designated meeting places (neighborhood & out-of-town).
- ✦ **Outdoor Preparedness:** "Know Before You Go"—check forecasts prior to boating, camping, or sports activities.
- ✦ **Property & Valuables:** Secure loose yard items, elevate key documents/photos, and keep an itemized inventory for insurance.
- ✦ **Multiple Alert Channels:** NOAA Weather Radio, Wireless Emergency Alerts, and local media.

WATCH: Hazard is possible. Be prepared and stay tuned to local updates.

WARNING: Hazard is occurring or imminent. Take protective action immediately!

Thunderstorms & Lightning

- **Lightning Rule:** "**When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!**" No place outside is safe during a thunderstorm.
- **Shelter:** Move immediately to a substantial building or hard-topped vehicle. Avoid plumbing, wired electronics, and concrete walls/floors.
- **Wait:** Remain indoors for at least 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

Tornado Safety

- **Seek Shelter:** Go immediately to an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building (basement, storm cellar, hallway, or windowless bathroom).
- **Protect Yourself:** Put as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Cover your head and neck with arms, pillows, or blankets.
- **Avoid:** Windows, doors, outside walls, and vehicles/mobile homes (evacuate to a sturdy shelter ahead of time).

Emergency Kit Checklist

- Water (1 gallon per person per day for 3–7 days)
- Non-perishable food & manual can opener
- Battery-powered or hand-crank Weather Radio
- Flashlight & extra batteries
- First aid kit & essential medications
- Portable phone charger / power bank
- Personal hygiene items & sturdy footwear

Keep these essential items stored in an easily accessible, portable container!

Flooding

- **Driving Risk:** 6 inches of moving water knocks down adults; 12 inches floats cars. Never drive through flooded roads.
- **Document Safety:** Store insurance policies and vital documents in a waterproof container on upper floors.

**Turn Around
Don't Drown!**

Heat & Cold

- **Extreme Heat:** Hydrate frequently, wear lightweight/light-colored clothing, limit outdoor work to cool hours, and NEVER leave children or pets in a parked vehicle.
- **Extreme Cold:** Dress in loose-fitting layers, cover all exposed skin to prevent frostbite, check on vulnerable neighbors, and protect home plumbing.

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