

Severe Storm or Tornado – Shelter in Place

There may be less than ten minutes advance notice of an approaching tornado. The first you may hear of the danger of an approaching tornado is through an internet, TV, or radio communication. React immediately and seek shelter.

What to Do To Protect Yourself

In a severe storm or tornado, the safest place to be is inside a building. Being outdoors, especially in a vehicle, is not as safe as being indoors.

If indoors you should seek shelter immediately:

- Go to the lowest floor in the building which you can safely reach
- Move to the center of the building – go to a hallway or center room with no exterior walls or windows

Stay away from:

- Doors and windows
- Exterior walls
- Rooms with a large free-span or non-supported roof (such as in an auditorium or gymnasium)

Remain in the building until the storm has passed

If you are outdoors during a severe storm or tornado it is best to get to the nearest building and get indoors as quickly as possible. If you cannot get indoors, move as far away as possible from overhead power lines or trees, seek out a ditch, a culvert, or other low-lying depression in the ground and lie flat, shielding your head with your arms.