

# What to do during a Tornado Warning

**A TORNADO WARNING means that a confirmed tornado has been spotted, or detected by radar**

If You Are In	Then Do This
<p>A structure (e.g. residence, small building, school, nursing home, hospital, factory, shopping center, high-rise building)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL TO A COMMUNITY STORM SHELTER DURING A WARNING AS YOU WILL BE IN HARMS WAY</u></b></li> <li>• Go to a pre-designated area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of a small interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck.</li> <li>• In a high-rise building, go to a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible.</li> <li>• If you have a helmet (ie bike, sports, etc), put it on to protect your head. Put on sturdy shoes.</li> <li>• Do not open windows.</li> </ul>
<p>A manufactured home or office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL TO A COMMUNITY STORM SHELTER DURING A WARNING AS YOU WILL BE IN HARMS WAY</u></b></li> <li>• Get out immediately and go to a pre-identified location such as the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.</li> </ul>
<p>The outside with no shelter</p>	<p>If you are not in a sturdy building, there is no single research-based recommendation for what last-resort action to take because many factors can affect your decision.</p> <p><b>Possible actions include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter. If your vehicle is hit by flying debris while you are driving, pull over and park.</li> <li>• Take cover in a stationary vehicle. Put the seat belt on and cover your head with your arms and a blanket, coat or other cushion if possible.</li> <li>• Lie in an area noticeably lower than the level of the roadway and cover your head with your arms and a blanket, coat or other cushion if possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>In all situations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location.</li> <li>• Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter.</li> <li>• Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.</li> <li>• <b><u>DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL TO A COMMUNITY STORM SHELTER DURING A WARNING AS YOU WILL BE IN HARMS WAY</u></b></li> </ul>

If you are directly impacted by a TORNADO, then you must be prepared to be SELF SUFFICIENT, as you may not be able to call 911, or your call may not go through. Remember it affects hundreds, or even thousands, and that is something that the emergency response system is not designed for.