



# City of Dyersburg

## Emergency Preparedness Guide

*Compliments of the City of Dyersburg*



# Why we must educate the public about the realities of Disaster Response

*A message from Dyersburg Mayor John Holden*

A 2010 American Red Cross survey found that an alarming 75 percent of citizens expected emergency help to arrive within an hour if they posted a request on a social media site, or that they could call 911 and that their call would get through the system. In reality, it is unlikely that you would receive ANY response from the emergency system.

This is why we must educate our community about being prepared and self-reliant.

We ask you to prepare yourself and your household.

Read this guide and take the steps to become self-sufficient as we work together in making our community disaster resilient.

*John Holden  
Mayor—City of Dyersburg*

## Are You Enrolled in Dyersburg DGOV Alerting System?



Get alerted about emergencies and other important community information in the City of Dyersburg by signing up for our Emergency Alert Program. This system enables us to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as unexpected road closures, missing persons, or other emergency alerts that need to be disseminated to the public.

*This is a FREE SERVICE. Please be sure to read the Overview and Frequently Asked Questions Section before enrolling.*

### You Have 2 Options For How You Can Sign Up

text 38024 to 888777 to receive just text alerts,

OR

To get an email visit [https://www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency\\_preparedness/index.htm](https://www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency_preparedness/index.htm)



# Dyersburg's 311 Service

*A free service for City of Dyersburg Residents*

No Need to fumble through a phone book, as you now have a simple to use 3 digit number for all City of Dyersburg Services

## WHAT CAN I USE 311 FOR?



*Non Emergency Request for Dyersburg Police*



*Non Emergency Request for Dyersburg Fire Department*



*All Request for Dyersburg Public Works*

*e.g. missing stop signs, pot holes, water leaks, missed garbage, tree limbs, water issues, etc*



*Information about City of Dyersburg Services, or other departments*



*You can also complete service request through the internet, or our smart phone APP. Visit [dyersburgtn.gov](http://dyersburgtn.gov) to learn more.*

## WHAT IF MY PHONE CAN'T DIAL 311?

*You may call 731.285.4019. If your cell phone carrier is not providing the 311 service, then please report it by calling 731.285.4019.*

**Remember to Call 911 for Emergencies**



# How to Stay Connected & Informed About Local Emergencies



**DGOV Mobile Smart Phone App**, available for both Apple and Android. The City of Dyersburg smart phone app is your one source connection to the City of Dyersburg. You can see current weather conditions, weather alerts, local community alerts, utilize 311 connect to report non-emergency issues, plus a lot more. Available from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Download either from the Dyersburg web @ [www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency).



**DGOV Community Alerting** – sign up for our text and email alerts at [www.dyersburgtn.gov](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov). These alerts are used to advise the community of local emergency information. Just look for the blue box on the right side of the web page @ [www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency).



**Weather Radios** - Every home and business should have a weather radio. We recommend the type that has “SAME” (specific area message encoding) technology, which allows you to program the specific counties you want to monitor. Weather Radios Save Lives. Local Dyer Co NWS weather radio frequency is 162.500 (FIPS code is 047045)



**Local Dyersburg Radio Stations** 100.1 FM, 97.3 FM, 101.7FM, 1450AM



**Local News Paper** [www.stategazette.com](http://www.stategazette.com)



**Facebook** - The City of Dyersburg is on Facebook. You can “LIKE” our page to receive important information and immediate severe weather alerts. Visit [www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency](http://www.dyersburgtn.gov/emergency) and click on the Facebook logo.



**Commercial Mobile System (CMAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts(WEA)** The Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS), also known as the Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), allows public safety authorities and the National Weather Service to send text like Wireless Emergency Alerts to your cell phones. WEAs will relay Presidential, AMBER, and Imminent Threat alerts to mobile phones using cell broadcast technology. CMAS/WEA is part of the National Emergency Alert System (EAS) which sends warnings to television and radio.



# City Street Department battles ice-covered roads following winter weather

**BRANDON HUTCHESON**

bhutcheson@stategazette.com

In times of inclement winter weather, street department workers of the City of Dyersburg find themselves working long, hard hours battling the elements in an effort to provide residents with safe routes of travel.

Speaking on behalf of efforts exerted by the crew during the latest winter storm experienced by the city in January of 2018 was City of Dyersburg Street Department Superintendent Mike McCulloch.

“The first day we came out, we took road graders and trucks with salt, and concentrated on the area around the hospital, the pharmacies, clinics, Wal-Mart, and any place that would be a critical spot for someone to be that needed help,” McCulloch explained.

After clearing off main roads, the street crew must wait for temperatures to rise above 25 degrees in order to loosen salt from the ice to be pushed away by the truck. In many instances, workers begin work as early as 3 a.m., and continue on until nightfall.

McCulloch says city workers not only clear side roads, but also aid in the clearing of state routes, including: Lake Road, the Bypass, South Main, Old 51, and part of Saint John.

“Of course, we’ve helped the state out, and they help us out. If they go down a street, to turn around, and it’s a city street, they’ll throw their blade down and run on it. It’s just like if we get on a state road, we don’t just drive it, we’ll put the blade down and hit it again just because we’re going that way. We try to help each other out a little bit,” explained McCulloch.

McCulloch said the City Street Department used roughly 100 tons of salt on city roadways this year. The fleet of equipment used included: 4 trucks with blades, 2 salt spreaders and a road grader.



State Gazette photos/ submitted

**Following a winter weather storm, the City of Dyersburg Street Department began immediately working to clear roadways within the city. (Top, left) A City Street Department Road Grader passes through Church Street while a truck (right) plows open a lane on Mall Blvd.**

While snow or ice storms are not frequent in Dyersburg, they often do create dangerous driving conditions, may freeze pipes, and down power lines and interrupt communications. There are many precautions you can take to ensure that you will have a safe and warm winter season.

#### Before the Storm:

- Prepare your 72 Hour Kit for the winter storm event. Make sure that you have a three day supply of food and water for each person in your house, extra blankets, first aid kit, flashlights and batteries, a battery-operated radio, baby formula, and medications.
- Have an emergency heat source available, such as a fireplace, space heater, or wood burning stove. Take the time to learn how to properly use the heating source and follow the safety tips below.
- Use the heating source properly to prevent fires. Do not use charcoal burning devices.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby in case a fire accident occurs.
- Ventilate the area properly.
- Have operating carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.
- Maintain at least a half tank of gas during the winter season.
- Keep a winter emergency kit in each vehicle.
- Bring pets indoors and make sure they have plenty of food and water.

#### During the Storm

- Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. Remove layers as needed to avoid overheating, perspiration, and subsequent chill.
- Avoid travel unless it is absolutely necessary. If you must travel, use extra caution when driving. Maintain lower speeds and keep plenty of distance between yourself and the next vehicle. Use extreme caution on bridges, overpasses, and elevated highways where ice forms rapidly.
- Keep in mind that the roads may still be icy even though you may not see the accumulation of ice or snow. Remember that even 4-wheel drive vehicles will have difficulty driving on icy roads.
- Stay tuned in to local media for hazard conditions, school and business closings, and recovery information.

# Earthquakes

Dyersburg is located 40 miles from the New Madrid Seismic Fault, one of the most active seismic regions east of the Rockies. The area averages 3 earthquakes monthly, most of which are not felt.

**NOTE: – THERE IS A 90% PROBABILITY OF A MAJOR SEISMIC EVENT BY THE YEAR 2040. YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO BE SELF SUFFICIENT FOR AT LEAST 1 MONTH.**

If you are indoors when the shaking starts:

- DROP, COVER and HOLD! Get under something sturdy.
- If you are in bed, stay there and protect your head with a pillow.
- Get away from windows, tall furniture, hanging objects, large appliances and cabinets or shelves filled with heavy objects.

If you are Outdoors or Driving:

- Move quickly and safely into the open, away from electrical lines, trees and buildings. Drop to the ground and wait for the shaking to stop.

- If you're in the car, carefully and slowly bring your vehicle to a stop at the side of the road, away from traffic.

Do not stop on or under bridges, under power lines or near heavy roadway signs or billboards that may fall.

Once the shaking has stopped, you may continue driving but be aware of potential damage to the roadway.

After the Shaking Stops:

- Be prepared for aftershocks.
- Check around you for dangerous conditions, such as fires, downed power lines, gas leaks or structural damage.
- Check everyone around you for injuries; provide first aid, if necessary.
- If you have a fire extinguisher nearby, use it to immediately put out small fires.
- Turn off the gas only if you smell gas.
- Check your phones.
- Inspect your home for damage.

If you are Trapped in Debris:

- Move as little as possible so that you won't kick up dust. Try to cover your nose and mouth with clothing.
- Tap on a pipe or a wall so that rescuers can hear where you are. Shout only as a last resort.

Take Some Time to Prepare Your Home:

- Make sure bookcases and filing cabinets are secure, preferably anchored to the nearest wall.
- Use screw eyes and heavy-duty wire to securely attach heavy pictures and mirrors to the wall.
- Fit all gas appliances with flexible connections and/or a breakaway gas shutoff device, or install a main gas shutoff device. Check building codes to determine whether you may do this yourself or if professional installation is required.
- Teach everyone to DROP, COVER and HOLD on!! DROP to the floor, take COVER under a desk or sturdy table, and HOLD on when an earthquake hits.
- Make sure everyone is familiar with the family communication plan and knows escape routes from your home.
- Make certain all adults and teenage household members know where the utility shutoffs (gas, electric and water) are located and how to turn them off if there is a leak or electrical short.
- Check your emergency kit and family go-bags to make sure all supplies are in order and up to date.

## Reported earthquakes over the past six months 2020-2021





## *Dyersburg Emergency Operations*

*“making a difference in our community”*

Our desire is to educate and prepare our community about the realities of disasters, especially the need for our community to be self sufficient after a disaster. If you would like for a member of Dyersburg Emergency Operations Center to assist your business with emergency planning, feel free to call us @ 7312854019.

Gloria Spence, ENP – Director

Dyersburg Emergency Operations



# Tornadoes

The City of Dyersburg is located in what is known as “Dixie Alley”. Dixie Alley is a nickname sometimes given to areas of the southern United States that are particularly vulnerable to strong or violent storms and tornadoes. This is distinct from the better known Tornado Alley.

Dyersburg and Dyer County have a much higher rate for deadly tornado events, than most other parts of the country.

## What is a Tornado Watch/Warning?

A Tornado Watch means that conditions are favorable for the development of a tornado while a Tornado Warning means that a tornado has been detected by radar, or a tornado has been reported.



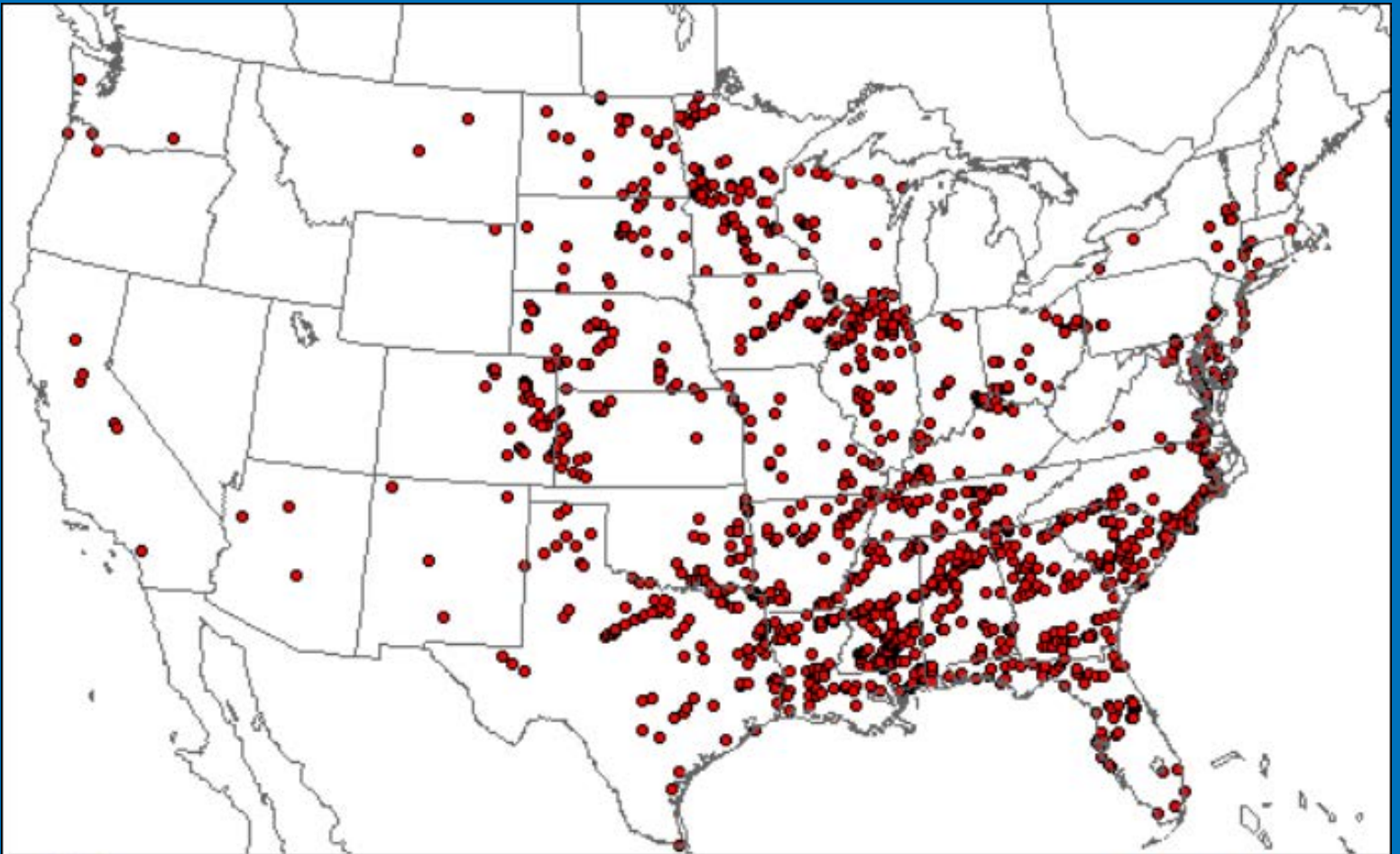
## So what is the best action to take when a tornado warning has been issued?

When the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning, you should immediately seek shelter; turn on your TV or radio to a local broadcast station for more information, and prepare for a possible tornado. A tornado warning does not necessarily mean that a tornado is on the ground. It is an alert issued by the National Weather Service to warn that severe storms with tornadoes may be imminent.

## Does Dyersburg have Emergency Sirens?

The City of Dyersburg has 9 outdoor emergency sirens placed throughout the community. When the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for any part of Dyer County, a “steady” tone will sound. When you hear the sirens, seek shelter immediately and tune to a local TV or radio station for additional information. There is no all clear signal. If a tornadic storm cell is tracking toward the City of Dyersburg, then the sirens will sound continually until the storm is no longer a threat.

Testing is performed daily and monthly. The daily test is a simple “growl”, while the monthly is a 1-minute, steady alert tone.



PRELIMINARY SEVERE WEATHER  
REPORT DATABASE (ROUGH LOG)

NOAA/Storm Prediction Center Norman, Oklahoma

Tornado Reports  
January 01, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Updated: Thursday January 07, 2021 09:24 CT



# Shelters

## Storm Shelters

The City of Dyersburg operates 2 (F5) rated tornado shelters. One is located downtown across from Fire Station 1, and the other is located on the campus of Dyersburg High School.



The shelters are operational any time a tornado watch or warning has been issued. Do not attempt to travel to a shelter during a tornado warning. You should shelter in place; traveling to a shelter during a warning could place you in harms way.

Small pets are allowed in the storm shelter. They must be leashed or caged, and not violent or sick. You are not allowed to bring pillows, blankets, food or drinks.

Note, once a tornado warning has been issued, exit from the shelter is strictly prohibited during the warning.

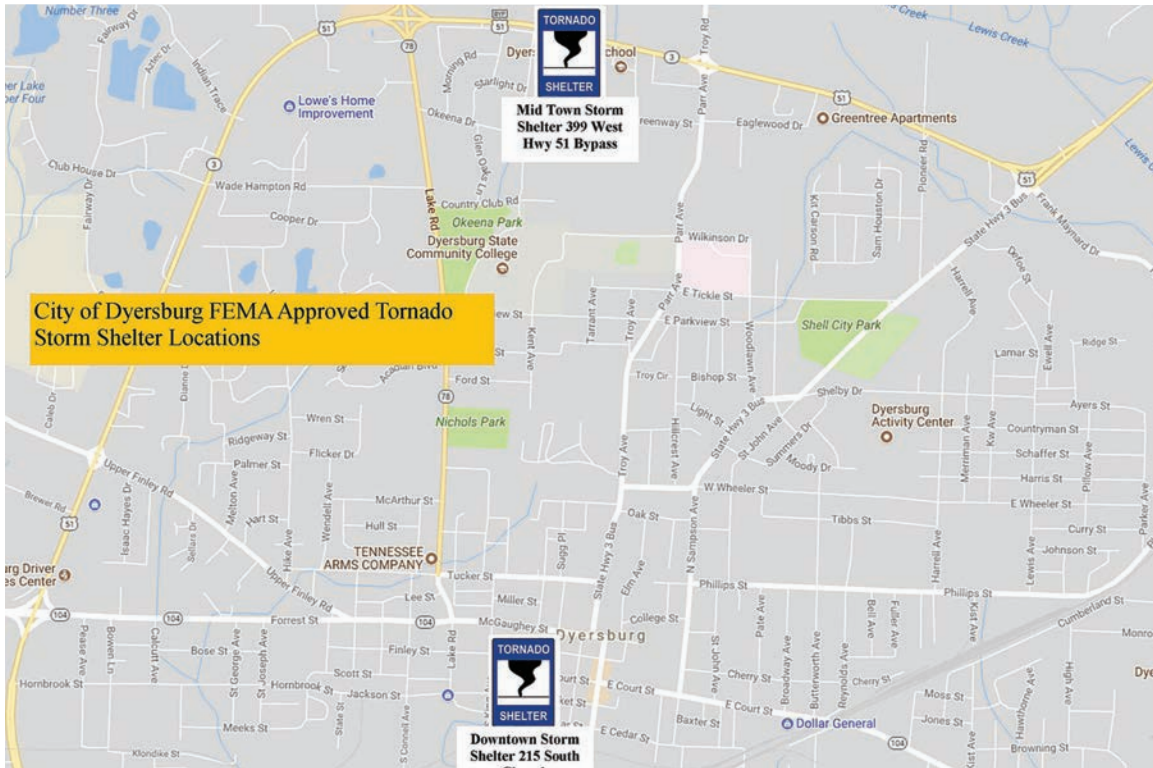
If you have your own personal storm shelter, please register your storm shelter with the Dyersburg Fire Department

by calling 731.288.7614.

Post Disaster Shelters & Sheltering in Place

The Red Cross will establish shelters as needed to handle those who are displaced due to disasters. Locations will be

determined as needed and announced through local media.



IF YOU ARE ASKED TO SHELTER IN PLACE, go inside your home or the nearest appropriate facility. Take shelter in a room that has few doors or windows. Ideally, a room to shelter in place should allow at least 10 square feet per person. Seal all doors and windows. Turn off the ventilation systems. Stay tuned to your radio or television for emergency information and up-dates. Make use of your "Go" Bag and Emergency Supply Kit.

## Extreme Heat

The West Tennessee area is frequently affected by severe heat hazards during the summer. Daily high temperatures range into the upper 90's and low 100's. When combined with moderate to high relative humidity levels, the heat index moves into dangerous levels, and a heat index of 105 degrees is considered the level where many people begin to experience extreme discomfort or physical distress.

The major risks associated with severe summer heat include heatstroke, heat exhaustion, heat syncope, and heat cramps. Most at risk are outdoor laborers, the elderly, children, and people in poor physical health.

*During the summer months, if you think that your neighbors may be living in a dangerous environment (no air conditioner), then you can call 311 or (731) 285-4019. The Dyersburg Fire Department will be sent to check on the welfare of your neighbors.*

### When The Heat Is On ...



**be alert  
for signs  
of heat  
exhaustion!**

**If you experience feelings of nausea or dizziness or if your skin becomes clammy, follow these steps:**

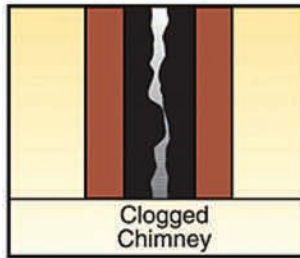
- 1. Drink water.**
- 2. Find a cool place immediately.**
- 3. Loosen your clothing.**
- 4. Lie down with your feet raised.**
- 5. Use a fan or air conditioner if possible.**

# Silent Death

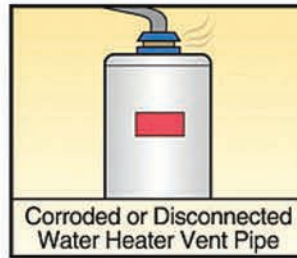
## Carbon Monoxide



Car Left Running in Attached Garage



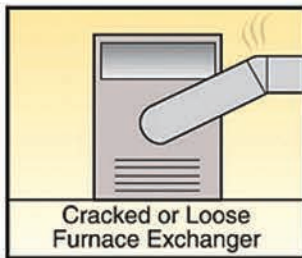
Clogged Chimney



Corroded or Disconnected Water Heater Vent Pipe



Gas or Wood-Burning Fireplace



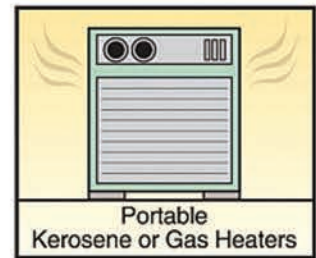
Cracked or Loose Furnace Exchanger



Improperly Installed Kitchen Range or Vent



Operating a Grill Indoors or in Garage



Portable Kerosene or Gas Heaters

### Generate Safely

#### Safe Generator Operation

Keep this card in your home's emergency kit or with your generator.

- Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment:
  - Stationary Generator:** An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.
  - Portable Generator:** Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.
- Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows, and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is **DEADLY**.

- Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.
- Start the generator first **BEFORE** connecting appliances.

Source: [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

Developed jointly by the Energy Education Council & Rural Electricity Resource Council



Percent CO in Blood	Typical Symptoms
<10	None
10-20	Slight headache
21-30	Headache, slight increase in respirations, drowsiness
31-40	Headache, impaired judgment, shortness of breath, increasing drowsiness, blurring of vision
41-50	Pounding headache, confusion, marked shortness of breath, marked drowsiness, increasing blurred vision
>51	Unconsciousness, eventual death if victim is not removed from source of CO

## Flooding

In the City of Dyersburg flooding can occur anytime there is a heavy downpour. Specific areas that could experience flooding are those areas south of and along the Forked Deer River. Although not a common experience, historic flooding has occurred several times in the last 100 years.

### Safety Tips

- If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Move to a safe area before access is cut off by flood water.
- Six inches of moving water can knock a person off their feet and move a vehicle.
- Two feet of moving water is enough to float most vehicles.
- Flood waters tend to hide underwater debris and eroded roadways.
- Turn around, don't drown - NEVER attempt to cross flood waters by vehicle or by foot.
- Never try to walk, swim, drive, or play in flood water.
- Children should never play around high water, storm drains, viaducts, or dry stream beds.
- Develop an evacuation plan with your family. Consider multiple evacuation routes in case one gets cut off by flood waters. Avoid routes that are low in elevation or run near streams or known waterways. Consider safe locations to "meet up" in case you and your family are temporarily separated by flood waters.
- Find out if you are located in a high, medium, or low flood risk area. Check with your city, county, or on FEMA's website for Flood Insurance Rate Maps to determine your house's risk.



# Thunderstorms

Every year people are killed or seriously injured by severe thunderstorms despite advance warning. A thunderstorm can produce hail at least 1 inch in diameter and have wind gusts of at least 58 miles per hour. Every thunderstorm produces lightning, which kills more people each year than tornadoes or hurricanes. Heavy rain from thunderstorms can cause flash flooding, and high winds can damage homes and blow down trees and utility poles, causing widespread power outages.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch - Severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area.

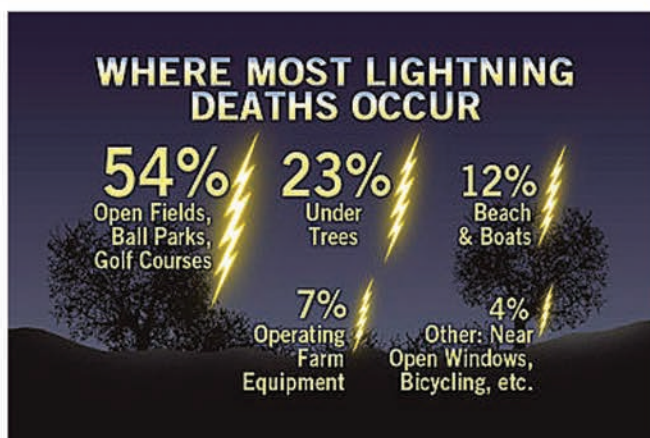
Severe Thunderstorm Warning - Severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar.

## How do I protect myself from lightning strikes?

- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Seek shelter immediately.
- If conducting outdoor activities, such as ball games, parades, etc, and you see lightning or hear thunder, cease all activities and clear the area. Have everyone seek shelter until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike or last heard thunder.
- Move to a sturdy building and stay away from windows. Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.
- If a sturdy shelter is not available, get inside a hard top vehicle and keep the windows up. Be aware, though, since vehicles offer poor protection from other severe weather hazards such as hail, downburst winds, and tornadoes.
- Get out of boats and away from water.
- Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining hazards information. Avoid using the telephone or any electrical appliances. Use phones only in an emergency. Do not take a bath or shower. Water and pipes can conduct electricity.

## What if you are caught outdoors and there is no shelter nearby ?

- Find a low spot away from trees, fences, and poles, or outside of stadiums or bleachers. Make sure the place you pick is not subject to flooding.
- If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shorter trees.
- If you feel your skin tingle or your hair stand on end, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Make yourself the smallest target possible, and minimize your contact with the ground.



# Storm Debris Clean Up

The Sanitation Department uses knuckleboom trucks to load piles of brush that are too large for workers to load by hand. This method of collection is safer and allows the Department to provide a quicker and more efficient service. Please leave enough room for the knuckleboom to operate.

Place your curbside pick-up debris at least 5 ft. away from your potential obstacles such as mail boxes, fences, walls, water meters, telephone connection boxes and parked vehicles. Avoid placing brush under low-hanging tree limbs or power lines.

## APPROVED STORM DEBRIS CURBSIDE PICK-UP

- Brush/Vegetation should be stacked in piles end to end, or on top of one another (not tangled). In general, height doesn't matter, but *all brush needs to be cut to appropriate length of 5 feet and a diameter no larger than 12 inches.*
- Leaves and Grass clippings must be bagged or boxed.
- Garbage / Trash include but are not limited to food items, household waste, medical products clothing, paper, glass or plastic by-products, etc. Do not install glass, needles or other sharp objects within trash bags without protective covering.
- Bulky items such as household furniture, mattresses, approved appliances, collapsed bound boxes, etc.



## PROHIBITED STORM DEBRIS CURBSIDE PICK-UP

- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE shall not be placed curbside and will not be picked up. See Hazardous Waste link for instructions for proper disposal. Hazardous wastes include any substances that may constitute a hazard to health or may cause property damage by reason of being explosive, flammable, poisonous, corrosive, radioactive, infectious or otherwise harmful to people or equipment. Household hazardous wastes include substances used in small quantities for household projects, paint, motor oil, and other liquids, etc. Items including but not limited to televisions, monitors, computer equipment, microwave ovens, refrigeration appliances containing Freon, tires, batteries and other automotive parts; etc. For Disposal Instructions and additional information contact Dyer County Building Inspector: 731.287.0775 or Dyer County Waste Management: 731.286.0047

<b>BEFORE</b> <b>The key to effective disaster prevention is planning:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Know the earthquake hazards in your area.</li><li>✓ Follow structural design and engineering practices when constructing a house or building.</li><li>✓ Evaluate the structural soundness of the buildings and houses; strengthen or retrofit if necessary.</li></ul>	<b>Prepare your homes, workplace or schools:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Strap or bolt heavy furnitures/ cabinets to the walls.</li><li>✓ Check the stability of hanging objects like ceiling fans and chandeliers.</li><li>✓ Breakable items, harmful chemicals and flammable materials should be stored properly in the lowermost secured shelves.</li></ul>	<b>Familiarize yourself with the exit routes.</b> <p>Know where fire extinguishers, first aid kits, alarms, and communication facilities are located. Learn how to use them beforehand.</p> <p>Prepare a handy emergency supply kit with first aid kit, canned food and can opener, water, clothing, blanket, battery-operated radio, flashlights and extra batteries.</p> <b>Conduct and participate in regular earthquake drills.</b>
<b>DURING</b> <b>STAY CALM.</b> <b>When you are INSIDE a structurally sound building or home... STAY THERE!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ If possible quickly open the door for exit.</li><li>✓ Duck under a sturdy desk or table, and hold on to it, or protect your head with your arms.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Stay away from glass windows, shelves, cabinets and other heavy objects.</li><li>✓ Beware of falling objects. Be alert and keep your eyes open.</li><li><b>If you're OUTSIDE...move to an open area!</b></li><li>✓ Stay away from trees, powerlines, posts and concrete structures.</li><li>✓ Move away from steep slopes which may be affected by landslides.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ If you're near the shore and feel an earthquake, especially if it's too strong, move quickly to higher grounds. Tsunamis might follow.</li><li><b>If you're in a moving vehicle, STOP and get out! Do not attempt to cross bridges, overpasses, or flyovers which may have been damaged.</b></li></ul>

## Tips for Home Disaster Supply Kit

- Cash, especially in small denominations. We recommend you keep at least \$100 on hand.
- Bottled water and non-perishable foods.
- After an earthquake, immediately turn off the gas and water. You can use the water in the hot water heater as a source of drinking water.
- Flashlight, battery-operated AM/FM radio, extra batteries, and candles.
- Medications for a least one month and other essential personal items.
- Be sure to change medications before they expire. Keep a list of the medications for each member of your household takes.
- Fire Extinguisher and a First-aid kit.
- Child care supplies or other special items.
- Extra blankets and auxiliary source for heating, such as a kerosene heater, generators, etc. Remember, many people die from carbon monoxide because of improper use of kerosene heaters, generators, etc.
- Car charger and/or solar charger for you cell phone
- Check on your neighbors.

## Tips for Persons with Special Needs

- Determine what type of support you may need in an emergency. You must arrange for support ahead of the disaster, as 911 will not be able to help.
- Include your home care attendant and others in your network in your planning process.
- If you are dependent on electricity for your wheelchair, breathing machine or any other life sustaining device, plan for a loss of power.
- The hearing impaired may need to make special arrangements through a neighbor or friend to make sure they receive emergency warnings.
- Mobility impaired people may need assistance to get to a shelter or to evacuate from buildings. Keep in mind elevators will not work in a power outage. Persons with illnesses that utilize electrically powered medically necessary equipment should check in with their families or doctors.
- People with special dietary needs should have an adequate emergency supply.

## Tips for Pets Owners

- Water, food and containers.
- A leash / muzzle/ harness.
- A copy of all current vaccination and and micro- chips numbers.
- Medication for your pet (if needed).
- A pet carrier or cage



# Why I must be self sufficient

The public must be PREPARED to be self-sufficient; you must be capable of taking care of yourself for at least 2 weeks.

## Points to consider:

- Local resources are limited and they may not be able to organize for at least 48 hours after a major disaster, such as a tornado strike inside the City of Dyersburg.
- Depending on how widespread of an event, local resources may not be able to respond even if organized. Some of the responders may even be affected personally or resources may not even be available due to loss of equipment and personnel.
- The 911 Center will more than likely experience a overload for calls for service, which exceed the resources we have available to respond. You may be told by a 911 operator that there are no fire, EMS, or police available.
- Major disasters such as earthquakes will disrupt roads, communications, utilities, and sewer/sanitation systems.
- It could be at least 2 weeks before we see National Guard and at least 3 weeks before we see Federal troops and supplies.
- You must be prepared with food, water, medications, and first aid.
- You must be prepared to sustain yourself within your home, during cold weather, without electricity.
- When there is a major earthquake, Dyersburg will not be the only City impacted. Millions of people will be affected. It will be the largest disaster America has ever seen. Our country's emergency response system is not capable of responding to an event of this magnitude.

**YOU MUST TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO BE PREPARED!**

**YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO CALL 911 FOR HELP - YOU COULD BE ON YOUR OWN - ARE YOU READY? ARE YOU PRE-PARED TODAY?**

**BECAUSE THE DAY AFTER IS TO LATE!**

# Congratulations Dyersburg Dyer County

You are a Storm Ready Community. You all do a great job keeping your community engaged, informed, and weather ready!

Sincerely,  
The Storm Ready Team  
National Weather Service







**ARE  
YOU  
READY?**