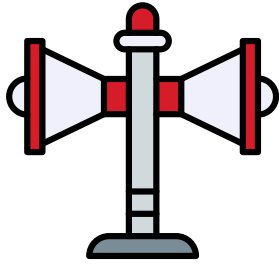


TORNADO SAFETY



When loud tornado sirens go off in your community, you might be startled, but the sirens are there to help keep you and your family safe. With the information here, you can learn more about how to prepare and what to do when severe weather hits.

What is a Tornado?

According to the National Weather Service, a tornado is “a violently rotating column of air touching the ground, usually attached to the base of a thunderstorm.”

Know the Difference Between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning

Tornado Watch means a tornado is possible. **Stay tuned to your local radio station or television** for weather updates and know where to go if you need to take shelter.

Tornado Warning means a tornado is happening or imminent. **When a warning is issued, it’s important for you and your family to take shelter right away.**



**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

Local emergency services offer **text alerts** you can sign up for to receive important information directly.

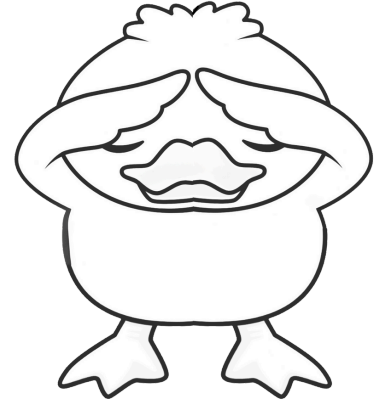
Signs of a Tornado

- Dark, often **greenish**, sky
- Large hail
- A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
- Loud roar, similar to a freight train

How to Stay Safe

When severe weather threatens, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness encourages you to **DUCK**:

- D** – Go **DOWN** to the lowest level
- U** – Get **UNDER** something sturdy
- C** – **COVER** your head
- K** – **KEEP** in shelter until the storm passes



Go down to the lowest level of the building and get as close to the center of the building as possible. **A basement is best.** If none exists, seek shelter in a windowless closet, bathroom, or inside hall. Stay away from windows, doors, and exterior walls. If you live in or frequently visit a mobile home, know where the nearest tornado shelter is located.



If you're at school, follow your teacher's directions. Go to an inside wall on the lowest floor. Kneel on the floor, facing the wall with your hands covering your head and neck. Avoid places like auditoriums and gymnasiums.

For more safety information, visit
www.weathersafety.ohio.gov

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