



Tornadoes | During Hazard Preparation Checklist

What Should I Do During a Tornado?

- Use a NOAA Weather Radio or your preferred local news source to track local watches and warnings.
- Pay attention to weather clues around you that warn of imminent danger, including:
 - Dark, often greenish clouds
 - A lowering, often rotating base of a thunderstorm called a wall cloud.
 - Large hail
 - A funnel-shaped cloud, or a cloud of debris (even if a funnel is not visible)
 - A roaring noise often compared to the sound of a freight train
- Heed the advice of the governor or local emergency management officials.

If a tornado watch is issued:

- Bring your companion animals indoors and maintain direct control of them.
- Be prepared to go to your tornado safe place.

If a tornado warning is issued:

- Go to your safe place to protect yourself from glass and other flying debris. Take your pets with you, provided you can do so without endangering yourself.
- Get under a sturdy piece of furniture, such as a workbench or heavy table, and hold on to it with one hand while using the other to protect your head and neck from falling or flying debris. If you are outside in a vehicle or mobile home, go immediately to the basement of a nearby sturdy building. Never try to out-drive a tornado. If there is no building nearby, lie flat in a low spot and use your arms and hands to protect your head and neck. Low spots are preferable to areas under bridges and overpasses.
- Be aware of flash flooding, which can be produced by the severe thunderstorms that generate tornadoes.
- Avoid places with wide-span roofs, such as auditoriums, cafeterias, large hallways, or shopping malls.