TORNADO

SAFETY RULES

WHEN A TORNADO APPROACHES - YOUR IMMEDIATE ACTION MAY MEAN LIFE OR DEATH

A TORNADO WATCH means tornadoes are expected to develop. Keep a battery-operated radio or television set nearby, and listen for weather advisories—even if the sky is blue.

A TORNADO WARNING means a tornado has actually been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Seek inside shelter (in a storm cellar or reinforced building) and stay away from windows. Curl up so that your head and eyes are protected. Keep a battery-operated radio or television nearby, and listen for further advisories.

IN SHOPPING CENTERS, go to a designated shelter area (**not** to your parked car).

IN HOMES, the basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture if possible. In homes without basements, take cover in the center part of the house, on the lowest floor, in a small room such as a closet or bathroom, or under sturdy furniture. Keep some windows open, but stay away from them.

IN OFFICE BUILDINGS, go to an interior hallway on the lowest floor, or to the designated shelter area.

IN SCHOOLS, follow advance plans to an interior hallway on the lowest floor. If the building is not of reinforced construction, go to a nearby one that is, or take cover outside on low, protected ground. Stay out of auditoriums, gymnasiums, and other structures with wide, free-span roofs.

IN OPEN COUNTRY, move away from the tornado's path at right angles. If there is not time to escape, lie flat in the nearest ditch or ravine.

MOBILE HOMES are particularly vulnerable to overturning during strong winds, and should be evacuated when strong winds are forecast. Damage can be minimized by securing trailers with cables anchored in concrete footing. Trailer parks should have a community storm shelter and a warden to monitor broadcasts throughout the severe storm emergency. If there is no shelter nearby, leave the trailer park and take cover on low, protected ground.

SKYWARN

TORNADOES ARE ONLY ONE OF A THUNDERSTORM'S KILLERS.

LIGHTNING IS THE WORST KILLER. Stay indoors and away from electrical appliances while the storm is overhead. If you are caught outside, stay away from and lower than high, conductive objects.

THUNDERSTORM RAINS cause flash floods. Be careful where you take shelter.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE * UNITED STATES OF AMERICA *

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service

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