

Unit 9: Severe Weather

Lecture 3

Objectives:

E4.3B - Describe the damage resulting from and the social impact of thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, and floods.

E4.3C - Describe severe weather and flood safety and mitigation.

Severe Weather Damage



Severe Weather Damage



Severe Weather Safety*

Prepare a Home Tornado Plan

- * Pick a place where family members could gather if a tornado is headed your way. It could be your basement or, if there is no basement, a center hallway, bathroom, or closet on the lowest floor. Keep this place uncluttered.
- * If you are in a high-rise building, you may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor. Pick a place in a hallway in the center of the building.

Severe Weather Safety*

Stay Tuned for Storm Warnings

- * Listen to your local radio and TV stations for updated storm information.
- * Know what a tornado WATCH and WARNING means:
 - o A tornado WATCH means a tornado is possible in your area.
 - o A tornado WARNING means a tornado has been sighted and may be headed for your area. Go to safety immediately.
- * Tornado WATCHES and WARNINGS are issued by county or parish.

Severe Weather Safety*

When a Tornado WATCH Is Issued...

- * Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.

- * Be alert to changing weather conditions. Blowing debris or the sound of an approaching tornado may alert you. Many people say it sounds like a freight train.

Severe Weather Safety

When a Tornado WARNING Is Issued...

- * If you are inside, go to the safe place you picked to protect yourself from glass and other flying objects. The tornado may be approaching your area.
- * If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.
- * If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety (as above).

Flash Floods*

- * A flash flood WATCH means flash flooding is possible in your area.
- * A flash flood WARNING means a flash flood is occurring or will occur very soon.

Flash Floods

When a Flash Flood WATCH Is Issued . . .

- * Be alert to signs of flash flooding and be ready to evacuate on a moment's notice.

When a Flash Flood WARNING Is Issued . . .

- * Or if you think it has already started, evacuate immediately. You may have only seconds to escape. Act quickly!
- * Move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks, and storm drains. Do not drive around barricades . . . they are there for your safety.
- * If your car stalls in rapidly rising waters, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.

Severe Weather Mitigation*

- Be Prepared.
- Know what kinds of problems are caused from severe weather and plan ahead.
- Such as: Clean drinking water, power, food, emergency medical issues, etc...