**TORNADO PREPAREDNESS**

1. **WHEN TO SEEK SHELTER**
   1. Tornado is Imminent – Warning Signs Include:
      1. Strong, Persistent Rotation in the Cloud Base
      2. Whirling Dust or Debris
      3. Hail or Heavy Rain followed by Dead Calm or Intense Wind Shift
      4. Loud, Continuous Roar or Rumble
      5. Small, Bright Flashes at Ground Level near a Thunderstorm (power lines snapping)
   2. Sirens
   3. Severe Thunder Storms
   4. Hale Storms
   5. High Speed Wind Storms
   6. Falling Debris, Power Lines or Other
2. **WHERE TO SEEK SHELTER:**
   1. Storm Shelter – above or below ground
   2. House with a Basement
      1. Avoid staying directly beneath large objects or appliances such as Fridge or Piano
   3. House without a Basement, Dorm or Apartment
      1. Go to Lowest Floor
         1. Bathroom or Closet in Center of the Room
         2. Under a Stairwell
         3. Interior Hallway
         4. Bath Tub
   4. Modular or Mobile Home
      1. Evacuate Immediately
      2. Find Permanent Structure
      3. Find Low Ground or Ditch Away from Trees and Potential Debris
   5. Professional or Public Building or Hospital
      1. Do Not Use Elevators
      2. Do Not Panic
      3. Watch for Others
      4. Go to Lowest Level if possible
      5. Go to Interior Space such as Bathroom or Storage in Center of the Bldg
      6. Interior Stairwell
      7. Under Furniture such as Seats, Tables or Pews
   6. Vehicle
      1. Drive out of the path if far enough away
      2. Evacuate and Seek Permanent Structure if Close Enough
      3. Evacuate and Seek Shelter in Ditch, Ravine or Below Grade Culvert
      4. Remain in your Vehicle with Seat Belt Buckled
      5. DO NOT GO UNDER OVERPASS OR BRIDGE
      6. DO NOT TRY TO OUTRUN TORNADO
   7. Open Outdoors
      1. Seek Permanent Structure if Close Enough
      2. Seek Shelter in Ditch, Ravine or Below Grade Culvert
3. **SAFETY TIPS**
   1. Avoid Windows!
   2. Use Mattress or Padded Cushion, Sleeping Bag, Etc. to Protect Yourself From Debris
   3. Wear a Helmet to Protect Your Head
   4. Crouch Face Down and Protect Your Head with Arms or Hands if Helmet is Not Accessible
4. **AFTER THE STORM**
   1. Remain Calm
   2. Keep your family and pets together in a safe location until emergency personnel arrive
   3. Render aid to those who are injured
   4. Stay away from power lines and puddles as there could be live electricity
   5. Stay away from broken glass, sharp objects and damaged houses / buildings due to possibility of collapse
   6. Do not use matches or lighters in case of leaking gas pipes or fuel tanks nearby
   7. Await instructions from emergency crews or local officials
5. **EMERGENCY DISASTER PLAN**
   1. How will you get to a safe place if at home, school, work, etc.?
   2. Who will you contact after the storm and how?
   3. Have an out-of-town contact that each family member can call to notify of their safety and location, as it may be easier than reaching someone in the same town.
   4. Program your cell phone with an emergency contact listed under “ICE” (In Case of Emergency) in case your are injured
   5. How will you reunite if family members are missing or in different locations?
   6. Designate an evacuation location and meeting spot in your neighborhood
   7. Prepare an emergency kit to keep in your shelter or an easily accessible back pack or bag
   8. Notify your local Emergency Management Agency of the location of your tornado shelter or safe room