



# At-A-Glance Tornado

A Preparedness Resource from The Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management

## *Tornado Warning vs Tornado Watch*

**Tornado Warning:** A tornado is occurring, or likely to occur within minutes. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property.

**Tornado Watch:** Tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms. Get the latest updates by listening to NOAA Weather Radio, visiting [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) or by tuning into your favorite radio or television weather information broadcast stations

## Did you know?

During a Tornado, the safest place to be is an underground shelter, basement, or safe room.

## *Safety Tips Before a Tornado...*

- Monitor NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, television newscasts, or news and weather websites for the latest information.
- Follow the instructions given by local emergency officials and be alert to changing weather conditions or fast approaching storms.
- Look for dark, often greenish sky with hail, a large dark low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating), and a loud roar, similar to a freight train, as signs of an impending tornado.

## *Safety Tips During a Tornado...*

- Being outdoors during a tornado is not safe. **Seek immediate shelter.**
- If no underground shelter or safe room is available, a small, windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest level of a sturdy building is the safest alternative.
- Mobile homes are not safe during tornadoes. Abandon mobile homes and go to the nearest sturdy building or shelter immediately.
- If flying debris occurs while you are driving, pull over and park. Stay in your vehicle with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows and cover your head with a blanket.

## *Safety Tips After a Tornado...*

- Monitor your battery-powered radio or television for emergency information.
- Do not touch downed power lines or objects in contact with downed power lines and report electrical hazards to the utility company.

Sources: [ready.gov](http://ready.gov), [NOAA.gov](http://NOAA.gov)

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