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## The Plan.....

Plan ahead, you may not have time to find what you need.

- Where are you going to go for shelter.
- Have a battery operated NOAA Weather radio with you.
- Flash light, some supplies (water, medications, blankets, pillows for protection, spare batteries for radio and flash light)
- Baby, toddler supplies (formula, diapers, medications, powdered milk)

## Preparing saves lives.....

Underground, in a basement, is the safest place to be during a Tornado. If you do not have a basement, the smallest interior, windowless room, such as a bathroom or closet, is your best choice. If you live in a mobile home, seek shelter elsewhere (community center, church, etc.).

If you are in your vehicle, leave your vehicle and seek a safe shelter near by or lie down in a low area such as a ditch and cover your head for protection.

### Safe Shelters in Pontiac, Illinois

Pontiac Recreation Center 815-844-6818  
901 N. Elm St.

1st United Methodist Church 815-842-1157  
219 N. Chicago St.

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## Watches and Warnings

What do they mean?

Understanding the terms will help.

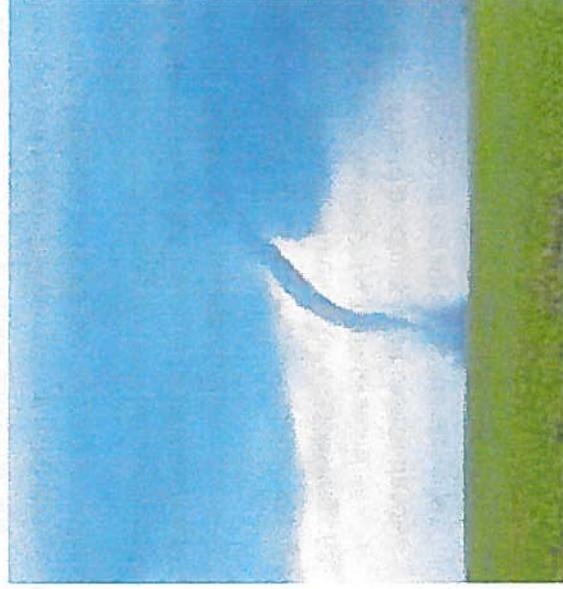
**Tornado Watch** means that the conditions are favorable for storms and Tornadoes to develop.

When a watch is issued, move cars inside a garage safe from hail, listen to a weather radio and be alert to the changes in weather.

**Tornado Warning** means that a Tornado has been sighted or is most likely going to form.

When a Tornado Warning is issued, seek shelter immediately. Don't wait until the sirens sounds to start grabbing supplies and thinking about what you should do.

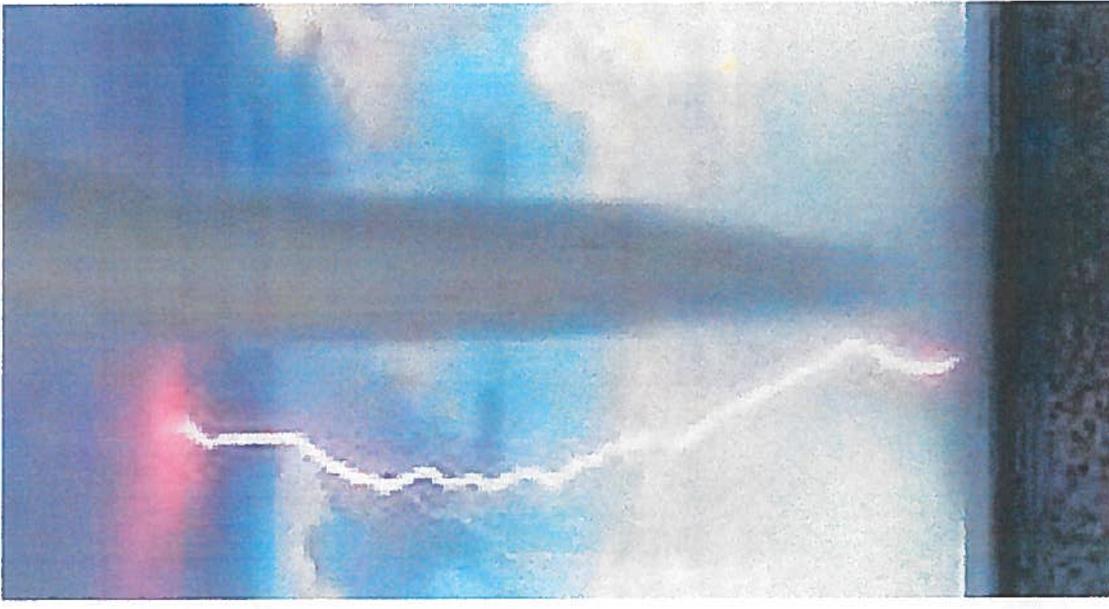
A good rule to follow, "If you are feeling uneasy or scared, don't wait, find shelter".



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# Tornado

## Plan and Survive



**Mother nature will most likely, always win. If you can see a Tornado, or, any other storm, stop, turn around and get away.**

Tornadoes are violent, rotating storms with winds that can exceed 300 miles per hour. The product of thunderstorms, they can be highly destructive. Injuries and death are the result of flying debris, building collapse or people caught trying to outrun the Funnel Cloud.



## **It's all about the weather.....**

Tornados don't just appear without some form of weather that precedes it. Tornados spawn from Thunderstorms. Not all Thunderstorms produce a Tornado.

As a matter of fact, very few Thunderstorms will produce a Tornado. Thunderstorms themselves can be very destructive and produce strong flat line winds that are capable of up-rooting trees and doing significant damage to buildings.

Thunderstorms may also produce Hail. Hail itself can cause tremendous damage to vehicles, crops and may cause harm to humans.

Along with the Thunderstorm comes Lightning. As with the other products of a Thunderstorm, Lightning can be dangerous and possibly deadly. The best place to be during a Thunderstorm is inside a structure or vehicle until the storm has passed.



## **The dangers after the storm**

If a Tornado has happened does not mean that the danger has passed. The debris that is left in its wake hides a lot of dangers that may cause harm to you.

You most likely will not recognize your neighborhood that you live in. You may not be able to see where the street is. Not only is there broken glass, nails and jagged metal, splintered lumber from what used to be your home, the hidden dangers of downed power lines and broken gas lines are very dangerous. Leaking gasoline from cars that have been flipped over.

This is not the time to salvage through your possessions. Let the Emergency Personnel secure the area and then you will be allowed to come back in and search through property. Find your way to a safe location, seek medical help if you need it.

You are more valuable than your property!