

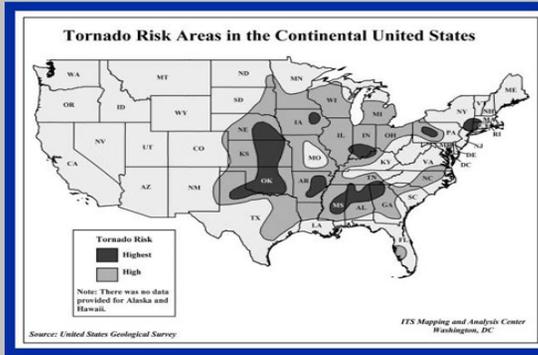
# Concord

NORTH CAROLINA



## SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY TORNADO

KNOWING WHAT TO DO DURING AN  
EMERGENCY IS AN IMPORTANT  
PART OF BEING PREPARED AND  
CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE  
WHEN SECONDS COUNT.



### BEFORE THE STORM

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio
- Look for Approaching storms
- Be Alert for danger signs such as dark, often greenish sky, large hail, a large dark, low-lying cloud, especially if rotating.
- Loud roar similar to a freight train

### DURING THE STORM

- Seek shelter immediately.
- Move to pre-designated area of refuge

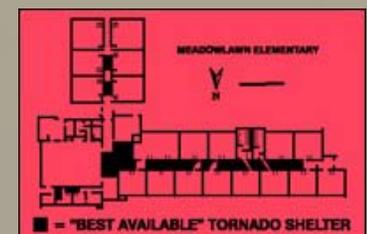
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[www.concordnc.gov](http://www.concordnc.gov)

### FACILITY TORNADO SAFETY

- Develop a severe weather response plan
- Determine tornado refuge areas in your facility. Basements are best, then interior rooms and hallways on the lowest floor away from windows.
- Assign someone who can activate the plan to monitor the weather radio, radio or TV.
- Have an alternate method of activating the alarm.
- Make provisions for residents with special needs.
- Know how to turn off electricity and gas if the facility is damaged;
- Transportation services should also be aware of the plan.
- Move residents quickly into interior rooms or hallways on the lowest. Those that are able should assume the tornado position.



# SEVERE WEATHER TORNADO

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- On average, 1,274 occur in the US annually.
- Cause an average of 60-65 fatalities and 1,500 injuries each year.
- Can produce winds in excess of 200 mph.
- Can be one mile wide and stay on the ground over 50 miles.
- Can occur at any time of day and any day of the year.
- **Having a plan can save lives.**

## BASIC FACTS

The peak tornado season in NC occurs in the months of March, April, and May. However, tornadoes have touched down in all months.

### Tornado Watch

Tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area. Review and discuss your plans and check your supplies and tornado refuge areas in your facility.

### Tornado Warning

A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Act now!! Go immediately to the designated safe areas in your building.

### Preparedness

- Before a tornado strikes, plan for how you will respond.
- Conduct annual tornado drills
- Purchase and become familiar with a national weather service radio
- Listen to radio and television for information

### Assemble Emergency Supplies

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio, and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Emergency food and eater
- Non electric can opener
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards

### WEATHER RADIO INFORMATION

NOAA RADIO FREQUENCY: 162.475  
CABARRUS COUNTY SAME CODE: 037025

A prepared facility and community are essential for mitigating the effects of a disaster. Do not forget the families of your staff and residents when developing your plan. As you prepare a plan for your facility you should also prepare a family disaster plan. Your local Emergency Management Agency and American Red Cross educate the community about the dangers posed by tornadoes and other disasters. Your chances of staying safe during a tornado are greater if you have a plan and practice the plan regularly.