



**Wisconsin weather has the potential to turn nasty very quickly. What can start out as a beautiful sunny day can turn into an intense storm within minutes. Tornadoes often do not give us warning, so how can we be better prepared?**

- Be proactive! Choose your sheltering place – the basement or, if you don't have a basement, the bathroom that is in the center most location of your home. This will be the place you go when the sirens sound, and you should be prepared to stay there until the all-clear is given.
- Do practice drills! Especially if you have children, repetition creates comfort and instinctual response! Practice, practice, practice!!!
- In your shelter be sure you have bottled water, snacks, blankets, flashlight, and a device you can listen to broadcasts on, so you know when the danger has passed. If you have small children, bring games or cards to keep them occupied in case you must be there for a while.

- When the potential for severe weather is issued, clear your yard and lawn of all furniture, toys, and other items that could become projectiles. This will reduce damage to your home or vehicle during storms.
- When the sirens sound, immediately go to your shelter and remain there until the danger has passed. This may be a few minutes, but it could be much longer. Do not try to film the storm or watch as it approaches, the possibility of being harmed by lightening or flying debris is too great!
- When the all-clear is given emerge cautiously and carefully. You don't know what damage is surrounding your property. There could be downed power lines, fallen trees, precariously hanging branches, or other debris that could be harmful to you.
- Be sure your family and neighbors are safe and together! If you need medical assistance, call immediately. Emergency responders will be overwhelmed and triaging to the best of their ability. If you can help, do so!