

## **Tornado Preparedness**

**Tornado watch** - tornadoes are possible in the warning area

**Tornado warning** - a tornado has actually been sighted somewhere in the warning area

### **During a Tornado**

- If you are indoors and if time allows, move to the lowest floor possible. Move into an inside room away from windows. Everyone must remain inside the building for maximum protection. If time allows, close all doors to rooms. Assume a fetal position to protect your head and eyes.
- If you are outside and hear a tornado warning or see a tornado, try to reach a building immediately. If you cannot reach a building, then you should lie flat in the nearest depression such as a ditch or ravine away from power lines, buildings and trees.
- If you are driving, do not remain in the vehicle. Get out of your vehicle and follow the instructions above. Do not attempt to outrun a tornado.

### **After a Tornado**

- Check for injuries. Do not move a seriously injured person unless he or she is in immediate danger of further injuries. If you need emergency assistance, call public safety at x3636.
- Be aware of any structural damage around you. If necessary and safe to do so, carefully leave the building per the “General Emergency Evacuation Procedures.”
- Always check for hazards:
  - Fire or fire hazards.
  - Damaged electrical wiring.
  - Downed or damaged utility lines. Stay away from downed lines, even if power appears to be off.
  - Fallen objects in closets and cabinets. Displaced objects may fall when you open the door.
  - Telephones. Make sure each phone is on its receiver. Telephones off the hook can tie up the telephone network.
  - Potentially harmful materials and/or medicines that may have spilled.
- If you are instructed to go to a shelter, take blankets, a flashlight, clothing, prescription medications, and snack items, etc.