

Tornado

I. Introduction

When a tornado warning is issued by the National Weather Service, University Police will activate the emergency notification system(s).

II. Protocol

All individuals on campus should proceed to the nearest available shelter. Persons already in a building should stay in that building and go to the lowest level of the building and away from any windows.

During a tornado or other weather crisis, persons who are not resident students or students who are not near their residence halls should seek shelter in classroom or administrative buildings

Note: only resident students have card access to the residence hall to which they are assigned.

1. During a Tornado emergency, faculty members and supervisory personnel will:

- Direct occupants to proceed in a quick and orderly manner to the nearest designated shelter area or lowest area in the building.
- Instruct occupants not to leave the building.
- Turn off all the lights and electronic equipment in the room.
- Provide assistance to person with disabilities if necessary.

2. All Others Should:

- Proceed to the nearest designated shelter area in the building by the closest route.
- Move quickly but in an orderly manner so that all may arrive safely.
- Stay against an inside wall.
- Move away from glass that could shatter or heavy bookcases or furniture that could fall over.
- Avoid, elevators, windows, or building with large roof spans (Tinsley Gym).

3. Have Disaster Supplies on Hand or bring them with you to lower levels.
 - Bottled water, food, first aid kit, flashlight, battery operated radio, batteries, personal hygiene items.

During a Tornado:

1. If you are INDOORS:
 - Stay indoors!
 - DROP to the ground; take COVER by getting under a sturdy table, bench or desk and HOLD on. If there isn't a table or desk near you, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch down into a ball next to an interior wall.

Move away from windows that may break and furniture or large objects that could fall over.
 - Be aware that the electricity may go out.
 - If you are in BED stay there! Hold on and put a pillow over your head for protection.
 - If you are in a THEATER OR STADIUM, stay in your seat or get under it if possible, and protect your head with your arms. Do not try to leave until the shaking is over.
 - If you are in a CROWDED ROOM OR PUBLIC PLACE, do not rush for exits. Move away from display shelves holding objects that could fall on you and "drop, cover, and hold."
 - DO NOT use elevators.
2. If you are DRIVING:
 - Pull to the side of the road as quickly as possible, but keep away from overhead hazards such as trees, buildings, utility poles and lines, signs, and bridges.

After a Tornado

1. Check yourself and those around you for injuries.
2. Only after the tornado stops, evacuate cautiously, taking your keys, wallet, purse, coat, and any emergency supplies.

3. On your way out, look for signs of building damage or for persons who are injured or trapped. Watch for falling objects as you leave the building.
4. Be prepared for additional tornados.
5. Turn on a battery-powered or vehicle radio if available for information.
6. If possible, do not use the phone for local calls, except emergencies, during the first 15-30 minutes after the tornado. Overloading the phone system with calls may delay the delivery of emergency assistance.

TORNADO PROTOCOL CHECKLIST

BSU POLICE HAVE RESPONDED.

AFFECTED PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN CHECKED FOR INJURIES.

AFFECTED AREAS HAVE BEEN EVACUATED.

AREA HAS BEEN MADE SAFE BY EMERGENCY CREWS.

PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ALLOWED BACK INTO THE AREA WHEN SAFE TO DO SO.

EMERGENCY MESSAGE HAS BEEN ACTIVATED.

COMMUNITY IS ADVISED TO PREPARE FOR ADDITIONAL TORNADOS.

TORNADO CHECKLIST