

From the Stark County Health Department

Prepare for Spring Severe Weather

It may have felt like a long winter, but spring is finally here!

The arrival of the new season can bring the potential for thunderstorms, tornadoes or flooding. It's severe weather that can strike at any time.

Are you prepared for an emergency during a severe storm? Keep some of these tips in mind for your safety.

- **Turn Around, Don't Drown.** If you approach a flooded roadway or pathway, do not drive through it. Driving through 6 inches of standing water could cause your vehicle to lose control and stall. Twelve inches of water can be enough to float and carry a small vehicle away.
- **When thunder roars, go indoors.** During a thunderstorm, move into a building or car with a roof for your safety. Avoid electronic devices and running water during the storm. Make sure to stay away from damaged areas afterward and watch for fallen trees and power lines.
- **Seek shelter during a tornado.** Go to a basement or the lowest level of your home. Keep away from windows. If you are in your car or outdoors, do not go under an overpass or bridge. A low, flat location is safer.
- **Know the difference between a watch and a warning.** A watch is when severe weather conditions are possible. A warning occurs when severe weather conditions are beginning or will begin soon.
- **Prepare your emergency kit.** Gather any items you would need during a power outage or check your inventory. Items would include water, food, a battery-powered radio, flashlight, first aid kit, extra batteries, dust mask, cell phone charger with backup battery, medications, sleeping bag or warm blanket, fire extinguisher, matches, personal hygiene items and infant formula, bottles, diapers and wipes.
- **Review your emergency plan.** Make sure everyone in your family knows what to do in the event of an emergency and your meeting places.

For more information, visit [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov).

TORNADO WARNING

VS.

TORNADO WATCH

A tornado is happening or imminent. Take shelter immediately.

A tornado is possible.

- Stay tuned to local radio/TV for info.
- Know where you'll shelter if you have to.

PHOTO CREDIT: OAR/ERL/NATIONAL SEVERE STORMS LABORATORY (NSSL)



**TURN AROUND,
DON'T DROWN.®**

When Flooded Turn Around Don't Drown

NOAA

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Ready ✓

WWW.READY.GOV/FLOODS