

SAFETY



MATTERS

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SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

Tornadoes

Tornado Safety Tips:

- Seek cover in a sturdy, pre-designated shelter or go to the lowest level of a building, and take cover or sit next to a wall with your arms/hands protecting your head. Your best protection is to have a safe room in a basement. Do not take shelter in a manufactured home even if it's tied down.
- If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room/hallway. Put as many walls between you and the outside of the building, and stay away from windows. If possible, get into a bathtub or under a bed, desk or table.
- Get out of your vehicle as they can be tossed around, and do not try to outrun a tornado. Keep in mind that highway overpasses offer little protection due to the wind-tunnel effect.
- If caught outside, lie flat on the ground and cover your head with your hands. Remember, when there is a tornado, debris will settle in roadside ditches or other low spots. If heavy rains are falling in the area, ditches and low spots may quickly flood.
- Be aware of flying objects, most deaths and injuries are caused by flying debris.
- Don't try to equalize air pressure by opening windows and doors. Buildings are more likely to explode after the wind gets inside.
- Tornadoes can occur before there is a visible funnel cloud. You may not see the tornado until debris and dirt gets swept into the vortex, and/or the visible funnel cloud develops all the way to the ground.

For further information go to: www.ready.gov/tornadoes.

TORNADOES

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, tornadoes can cause fatalities and devastate a neighborhood in seconds.

A tornado appears as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 miles per hour.

Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Every state is at some risk from tornadoes and no place is totally safe from tornadoes (except for a safe room).

For more safety resources, visit www.NFIB.com/safetymatters

For information about any of Markel's Loss Control Services, please call (888) 500-3344 or email safetymatters@markelcorp.com.

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