



HINDS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
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# Fall Severe Weather Awareness Week

## OCTOBER 22–26, 2018

Each day of this week will cover the following weather topics. These topics will also be posted on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/HindsEOC](http://www.facebook.com/HindsEOC)

**Monday, October 22nd:** Wireless Emergency Alerts

**Tuesday, October 23rd:** Severe Thunderstorms and Lightning

**Wednesday, October 24th:** Mississippi Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:15 am CDT.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** If rainfall is expected during the morning, the tornado drill may need to be postponed to the next clear day .

**Thursday, October 25th:** Flooding and Flash Flooding

**Friday: October 26th:** Snow and Ice

To see additional details regarding the Severe Weather Preparedness Week topics feel free to click (click + ctrl) on the link below:

<https://www.weather.gov/jan/swpwwfall>

It is important to know the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning



**Tornado Watches and Warnings**

**Tornado WATCH**  
Be alert and prepared. Severe storms and tornadoes POSSIBLE over the next several hours. Cover dozens of counties.

**Tornado WARNING**  
Take immediate action! Tornado sighted by a trained storm spotter or intense rotation on radar. Issued for portions of counties.

Illinois and Indiana Severe Weather Preparedness NWSChicago  
National Weather Service Chicago: [weather.gov/chicago](http://weather.gov/chicago)



**HINDS COUNTY WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE STATEWIDE TORNADO DRILL ON OCTOBER 24, 2018 @ 9:15 AM. WARNING SIRENS WILL SOUND FOR 1 MINUTE IN CONJUNCTION WITH FALL SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK!**

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*Two types of warning sirens you will see in Hinds County*

## MONDAY: WARNING RECEPTION METHODS

We have a lot of great safety info to share with you this week. First up—Receiving Warnings. Don't just rely on your local TV meteorologist to provide you with severe weather warnings. They may be super reliable but your electricity is not. Make sure you have at least two ways to receive a warning.

1. Warning Sirens:
  - ◆ Did you know that tornado sirens are meant for OUTDOOR purposes? They are not meant to be heard indoors.
  - ◆ Did you know that sirens are operated by the County Emergency Management office and not by the National Weather Service?
  - ◆ Hearing a siren should signal you to get indoors and seek additional information. It does NOT mean the threat has ended when the siren stops sounding.
  - ◆ Sirens in Hinds County can be heard at 60 decibels at approximately 2.5 miles from the siren location, depending on the weather conditions.
2. Emergency Alerts:
  - ◆ Make sure you have Emergency Alerts enabled on your smartphone. It could save your life.
3. Weather Radio
  - ◆ Take time to test your weather radio this week.
  - ◆ Make sure it is working properly and you can hear it.

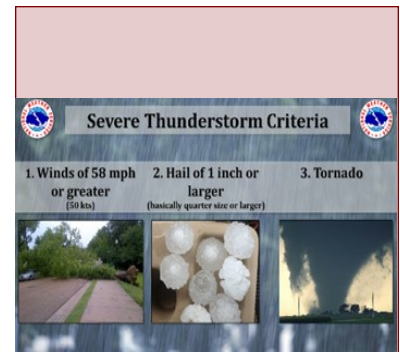
For more info: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>

# Have a Family Plan & Disaster Kit!



## TUESDAY: SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS

- ◆ Did you know that not every thunderstorm with extremely heavy rain, tons of lightning or gusty winds qualifies as a severe thunderstorm? There is a certain criteria shown in the picture to the right.
- ◆ Knowing the difference between a watch and a warning could save your life. Watch = Heads Up! Get Prepared. Warning = Seek shelter now!
- ◆ Where lightning is going to strike is the hardest thing a meteorologist can predict. The best safety advice we can give is that when you hear thunder go indoors. At that point you are close enough to be struck by lightning.



## WEDNESDAY: TORNADOES

- ◆ Statewide Tornado Drill on October 24, 2018 @ 9:15 am
- ◆ Safe place to be: Lowest floor of building (basement, shelter, first floor, etc.). Innermost part of building (hallway, closet, bathroom without windows, etc.). Get down and cover your head.
- ◆ Have a tornado drill. Wherever you are, ask yourself: If a tornado warning was in effect right now, where would I take shelter?
- ◆ When making your safe spot plans, don't forget about your pets.
- ◆ What if you live in an apartment on the 2nd floor? Where should you seek shelter?
- ◆ What if you live in a mobile home or manufactured home? Even a weak tornado can flip one that is not properly secured. Where should you take shelter?



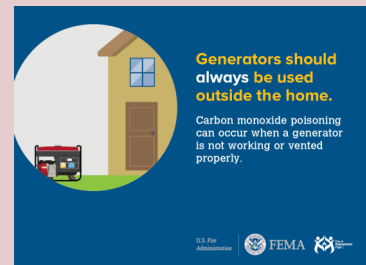
## THURSDAY: FLASH FLOODING

- ◆ Would you believe that flooding is one of the deadliest weather events every single year in the United States? Never underestimate the power of flowing water.
- ◆ Do not drive across water-filled dips in the road. The road may be washed out underneath the surface of the water.
- ◆ Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers. Heavy rain events frequently and notoriously occur at night.
- ◆ Did you know that a mere 6 inches of water can knock over a person walking through running water?
- ◆ Did you know that it only take 12 inches of flowing water to carry away a small vehicle and just a little more than that to carry away most other vehicles.
- ◆ Thinking about crossing that flooded roadway ahead of you? Are you willing to risk somebody else's life on it?

## FRIDAY: SNOW, ICE AND EXTREME COLD

- ◆ We don't see much winter weather here but when we do, there are huge impacts.
- ◆ When the temperature starts dropping remember the Four P's: People, Pets, Pipes and Plants.
- ◆ Winter prep checklist:
  1. Make sure pipes are insulated properly
  2. Close off unneeded rooms and place towels in the cracks under doors.
  3. Bring pets indoors or give them proper shelter.
  4. Review generator safety.
  5. Make sure to have a fully charged phone.

TURN AROUND  
DON'T DROWN!!



## FRIDAY: SNOW, ICE AND EXTREME COLD— CONTINUED

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- ◆ Space heater safety: Plug into wall outlets, don't use extension cord or power strips. Keep heater 3 ft away from flammable objects. Make sure it has automatic shut-off.
- ◆ Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- ◆ Dress warm, with multiple layers and stay dry if you can.
- ◆ Winter driving can be hazardous. One simple way to keep yourself and everyone on the road safe is to slow down. Remember, "Ice and snow, take it slow".
- ◆ Do you know the signs of hypothermia?



*Emergency Management protects communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to prepare for, protect against, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters.*

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