

America's PrepareAthon!: Prepare now for your actions during a tornado

This is the second in a five-part series on emergency preparedness.

Do you know what to do if a dark funnel cloud heads your way? According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a majority of tornadoes in the United States occur in April and May. However, destructive twisters can occur at any place or time with very little warning. Are you prepared? Being ready is as easy as **having a plan, being informed and prepared, and knowing where to go.**

Have a plan: [Watch America's PrepareAthon!'s newest short animated video](#) on tornado preparedness so you and your family are prepared.\

Be informed: [Sign up for local text alerts and warnings on your mobile phone.](#) These alerts notify you about worsening weather conditions in real time. You can also monitor weather reports through your local news media or use a NOAA weather radio that provides National Weather Service alerts 24 hours a day.

Know where to go: Whether you spend a lot of time at work, home, or school, [know where you can shelter quickly.](#) Practice going to that shelter or safe area so that it is a rehearsed response.

Be prepared: [Stock up on supplies you may need after the tornado passes.](#) Ensure your devices are fully charged with extra batteries in case of a power outage. Flashlights, gloves, and sturdy shoes are just some of the items you will want in your safety location at home or in a "Go Bag."

America's PrepareAthon! is a year round, grassroots, community-based campaign to increase national preparedness by educating people with ways to improve their own preparedness. Through May, America's PrepareAthon! and its broad range of partners, including DHS, will be promoting preparedness for specific hazards so that all of us can be better prepared for emergencies.

Visit America's PrepareAthon! at www.ready.gov/prepare to read preparedness stories, find events in your area, access customizable resources and register your preparedness activities.

The DHS Office of Emergency Preparedness has links and more information about tornadoes on its [website](#). You can also go to the FEMA website at www.ready.gov to get information on other hazards, family planning, emergency kits, and becoming involved in your community. Take a few minutes to practice preparedness at work and at home and promote safety tips among your network of friends and partners.

