

# Severe Weather Threat Tomorrow: Are you Ready?

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**CHICAGO** – As temperatures warm, many Midwesterners face a heightened risk of severe storms, heavy rains, localized flooding and even the potential for tornadoes tomorrow. Monitor local forecasts, and take steps now to prepare for the possibility of a dangerous situation.

"The threat of severe weather should be taken seriously," said FEMA Region 5 Administrator Thomas Sivak. "Now is the time to make sure you and those you care about know where to go to stay safe in case those risks become reality."

- **Follow the direction of local and state officials and make sure to sign up for your community's warning system.** The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts. If your community has sirens, become familiar with the warning tone.
- **Identify nearby, sturdy buildings close to where you live, work, study and play.** Pay attention to weather reports and warnings and be ready to take shelter immediately, if necessary.
- **Secure your property.** Remove any dead trees or overhanging branches near structures, loose roofing materials and objects in yards, patios, roofs or balconies that could blow away.
- **Make sure all mobile devices are fully charged in advance of the storm.** Plan for batteries and other alternative power sources to meet your needs in case the power goes out, such as a portable charger or power bank. Have flashlights for every household member.
- **Watch for fallen power lines and trees.** Report them immediately.
- **After the storm and once you are safe,** check on neighbors and friends to make sure they're okay.

Find even more valuable tips to help you prepare for severe weather at [www.ready.gov/severe-weather](http://www.ready.gov/severe-weather) and download the free FEMA app, available for your Android, Apple or Blackberry device.



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