



## Prepare Your Home

These preparations are important, as tornadoes often have little or no warning.

- Have your home inspected to be sure that it can withstand high winds.
- Be sure that roof-to-wall connections are secure.
- Be sure that wall-to-foundation connections are secure.
- Make any necessary enhancements to your garage doors to ensure that they can withstand high winds.
- Trim branches that may fall and cause damage to your home.
- Install impact-resistant windows and doors.

## Before a Tornado

If you have knowledge of an impending tornado, the following will help you prepare:

- Keep yourself aware of any tornado watches and warnings using NOAA Weather Radio.
- If the sky becomes dark or greenish or there are large, dark and low-lying clouds a tornado may be likely.
- Large hail and a roaring sound similar to a freight train are also warnings of a tornado.
- If you hear of a tornado warning, move anything from outdoors that may become flying debris into your house or garage.

## During a Tornado

While the tornado is passing, the following safety tips are important to follow:

- Remain Indoors
- Seek shelter in the lowest level of the building.
- In the case that there is no basement, stay in the most interior room (ex. closet, bathroom, hallway).
- Keep away from windows and doors.
- It was once believed that opening windows during a tornado helped minimize damage to your home. This is untrue as it may allow for wind and rain to travel into your home, creating more damage.

## Tornado Statistics

- During 2008 there were 1,691 tornadoes - second highest to the 1,820 tornadoes that occurred in 2004 (Insurance Information Institute).
- The average tornado travels at 30 miles per hour, but may get as fast as 70 miles per hour (FEMA).



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