

- Call 911 to report injuries and emergencies caused by the storm. Report locations of trapped persons; make note of persons with injuries and/or people with access and functional needs in need of assistance.
- Watch out for broken glass and fallen power lines. Do not enter damaged areas until you are told it is safe to do so.
- Do not use candles or an open flame; combustibles may be present.
- Use caution when entering a damaged building.

THUNDERSTORMS

A thunderstorm is formed from a combination of moisture, rapidly rising warm air, and a force capable of lifting air, such as a warm or cold front. A thunderstorm is classified as severe if it produces hail at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, has winds of 58 mph or higher, or produces a tornado.

Before a Thunderstorm:

- Secure outdoor objects, such as lawn furniture, and take light objects inside to avoid loss or damage.
- Look around your home and remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage.
- Secure windows and doors and unplug electronic equipment before the storm arrives.

During a Thunderstorm:

If Indoors:

- Do not handle any electrical equipment or corded telephones because lightning could follow the wire. TV sets are particularly dangerous at this time.
- Avoid bathtubs, water faucets, and sinks because metal pipes can transmit electricity.
- Turn off the air conditioner.
- Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.

If Outdoors:

- If you are boating or swimming, get to land and find shelter immediately. Try to get into a building or car. If no structure is available, get to an open space and squat low to the ground as quickly as possible.
- If you are in the woods, find an area protected by a low clump of trees—never stand underneath a single large tree in the open.

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SEVERE WEATHER

- Avoid tall structures, such as towers, fences, telephone lines, or power lines.
- Avoid lightning rods, such as golf clubs, tractors, fishing rods, bicycles, etc.
- If you feel your hair stand on end (which may indicate that lightning is about to strike you), squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Do not lie flat on the ground.

If in a Vehicle:

- Safely pull onto the shoulder of the road away from any trees that could possibly fall on your vehicle; turn on your emergency flashers and stay in your vehicle.

After a Thunderstorm:

- Call 911 to report life-threatening emergencies only, not damage or power outages.
- Drive only as necessary. Debris and washed-out roads may make driving dangerous.
- Never drive through a flooded roadway. Turn around, don't drown!
- Help people who may need special assistance, such as infants, children, the elderly, and people with access and functional needs.

FLOODING

Flooding is the nation's most common natural disaster. If you live in a low-lying area, near water, downstream from a dam or other areas known to flood, make sure you're prepared to evacuate. Even six inches of swiftly moving water can knock someone off their feet.

Before a Flood:

- Know your neighborhood flood history and low-lying areas. Determine if your home and workplace are in a flood plain.
- Talk to your insurance provider to determine if you need flood insurance.
- If you are in a high risk area, elevate the furnace, water heater, and electric panel in your home.
- Construct barriers to stop floodwaters from entering the building and seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds.
- When conditions indicate the potential for flooding, get out of low-lying areas.

During a Flood:

- Move to higher ground immediately. Do not wait for instructions to leave but if told to evacuate, do so immediately. Always stay away from floodwaters.

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