

A strong rotating tunnel of air that reaches from the sky to the ground. Tornadoes usually happen during thunderstorms and can cause a lot of damage.

Prepare

- Identify and prepare a “wind safe” room, or shelter (basement/cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor).
- Know your community’s warning system (e.g., tornado sirens).

Respond

- Monitor weather reports.
- Shelter-in-place in a safe room or shelter.
- Get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Hold on to it with one hand. Use your other arm and hand to protect your neck.

Tornado



Hurricane



A strong storm that starts in the ocean, where powerful winds and rains can cause damage when the storm approaches land.

Prepare

- Make an evacuation plan.
- Cover windows with plywood or shutters.

Respond

- Monitor weather reports.
- Evacuate if instructed to do so.

Dangerously high temperatures sometimes
accompany high humidity, which
cause the body to work extra hard to
maintain its normal temperature.

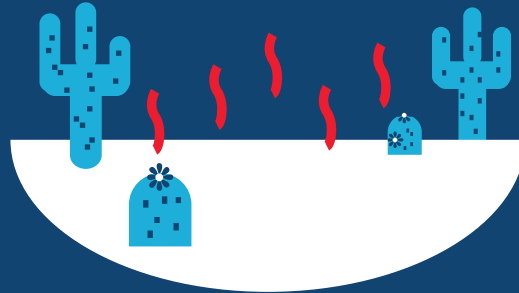
Prepare

- Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothes.
- Plan how to get relief from and avoid excessive heat (e.g., going to a library with air conditioning).
- Discuss with your family members what they should do to stay safe in excessive heat.

Respond

- Stay inside, where air-conditioning is available.
- Drink lots of water and eat lightly.

Extreme Heat



Dangerously low temperatures, sometimes accompanied by strong winds, icing, snow, sleet, and freezing rain. Winter weather can knock out heat, power, and communication and make traveling dangerous.

Prepare

- Add warm clothing and blankets to your disaster supplies kit.
- Install and maintain smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

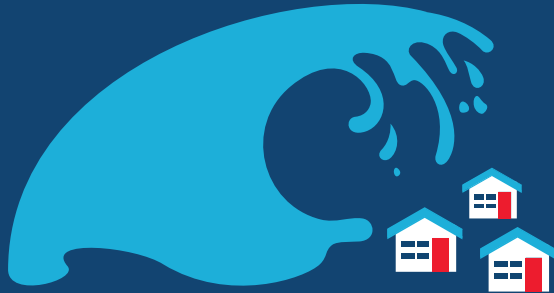
Respond

- Dress warmly, in layers.
- Stay inside.
- If you can't feel your fingers or toes or you can't stop shivering, tell an adult.

Extreme Cold



Tsunami



A series of very big waves that crash into the shore caused by an underwater earthquake, a landslide, volcano eruption or meteorite.

Prepare

- Identify and practice evacuation routes.
- Become familiar with the sound of a tsunami alert siren.

Respond

- Stay informed.
- Evacuate if instructed to do so.
- Move inland, away from the ocean.
- Seek higher ground.

Wildfire



An uncontrolled fire often occurring in open areas like forests or parks. Wildfires often begin unnoticed, but they spread quickly igniting plants and trees.

Prepare

- Plan evacuation routes.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, especially near bedrooms.

Respond

- Monitor news about nearby fires.
- Evacuate if instructed to do so.
- Make your home easy to find and access (e.g., leave lights on in your home).

- Respond**
- Drop to the floor, take cover under something sturdy such as a table and hold on to it with one hand. With your other arm and hand protect your head and neck.
 - Stay inside until the shaking stops.
 - If outside, find a clear spot and drop to the ground.

- Prepare**
- Learn and practice Drop, Cover and Hold On method.
 - Pick "safe places" in each room.
 - Understand that aftershocks follow the first quake.
 - Secure your home's indoor and outdoor objects.

Shaking, rolling or sudden shock of the earth's surface.

Earthquake



Landslide



The movement of masses of rock, earth or debris down a slope. Landslides occur when the ground builds up water quickly such as during heavy rainfall or rapid snow melt. They can strike quickly with little or no warning.

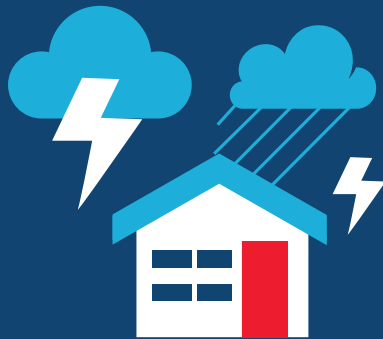
Prepare

- Plan evacuation routes.

Respond

- If you hear unusual sounds like boulders falling or trees cracking, tell an adult.
- Move away from the path of a landslide.
- If you can't evacuate, crouch down, covering your head with your arms.

Thunderstorm



A storm producing lightning that is often accompanied by heavy rains or hail.

Prepare

- Monitor weather reports.
- Prepare a safe room or shelter without windows or outside doors.

Respond

- Keep informed.
- Go inside if you see lightning.
- Don't use items that plug into electrical outlets, including computers.
- Avoid lightning targets--Stay away from metal objects outside, open fields, hills or beaches.
- Close windows and doors.
- Don't take a bath or shower as faucets conduct electricity.