

A Tornado Watch or Severe Weather Watch means that conditions are favorable for the development of such severe weather. Be alert to changing weather conditions and be prepared to take actions if the weather situation is upgraded to a Warning. A Tornado Warning means a tornado has been spotted or indicated by weather radar in your area. The following are among the danger signs in an approaching storm:

- Dark, often greenish sky
 - Large hail
 - A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
 - Loud roar, similar to a freight train.
1. If you receive notification of a tornado warning for the vicinity of Holy Cross College or see a tornado, take shelter immediately. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
 2. Stay away from the windows and areas with a large expanse of glass. Do not open windows.
 3. Avoid large rooms with free span roofs
 4. DO NOT USE ELEVATORS
 5. If disabled personnel can not safely move to the lowest level, assist to an interior hallway away from windows and areas with a large expanse of glass.
 6. Protect your head and face. If possible, get under a sturdy table or other structure.
 7. If outside, seek shelter in the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. If no shelter, get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter.
 8. If flying debris occurs while you are driving, pull over and park.
 - Stay in your vehicle with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows, covering with your hands and a blanket if possible.
 - If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, exit your car, and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands. Be aware of the potential for flooding in ditches, storm drains and culverts.

Lightning Safety Rules:

- If outside when thunder is heard, even a distant rumble, immediately move to a safe place indoors. Fully enclosed buildings with wiring and plumbing provide the best protection. Sheds, picnic shelters, tents or covered porches do not protect you from lightning. If a sturdy building is not nearby, get into a hard-topped metal vehicle and close all the windows. Stay inside until 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder.
- If you hear thunder, don't use a corded phone. Cordless phones, cell phones and other wireless handheld devices are safe to use.
- Keep away from electrical equipment, wiring and water pipes. Sensitive electronics should be unplugged well in advance of thunderstorms. Don't take a bath, shower or use other plumbing during a thunderstorm.
- If unable to go indoors, avoid open areas and stay away from isolated tall trees, towers, or utility poles. Do not be the tallest object in the area. Lightning tends to strike the tallest objects in the area. Stay away from metal conductors such as wires or fences.

The following severe weather preparedness guide is a publication of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/severeweather/resources/ttl6-10.pdf>