



Effingham County Health Department



Tornado

Fact Sheet

Are we at risk?

In recent years, Illinois has experienced several tornados. There are 6 levels of intensity for tornados; these levels are determined by using the following guidelines, known as the Fujita scale (shown below)

Scale of Intensity	
Category	Wind Speed (mph)
F0	40-72
F1	73-112
F2	113-157
F3	158-206
F4	207-260
F5	261-318



How to Protect Yourself:

TORNADO WATCH: Tornados are possible.

- Tune into local radio and television for updates.
- Be alert for sudden changes in weather.

TORNADO WARNING: A tornado has been sighted.

- If you are inside, go to a **shelter area**. (see below)
- If you are outside, go to the basement of a nearby building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area. It is not a good idea to take shelter under a bridge.
- If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and take shelter as described above.

Shelter Area Tips

A shelter area could be a basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. Find a room that puts as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Get under a sturdy table and protect your head and neck with your arms.

For more information:

- Effingham County Health Department - **217-342-9237**