



NOLA READY

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO TORNADOES

A tornado is the world's most violent storm and can devastate a community *in seconds*.

A tornado is a funnel-shaped cloud that drops from a thunderstorm to the ground with **winds up to 300 miles per hour**.



Tornadoes are year-round disasters that are **most frequent from March to May**.

STAY CONNECTED



Sign up for NOLA Ready emergency alerts. Text **NOLAREADY** to **77295** or go to **ready.nola.gov**.



Check your phone **notification settings** to ensure that emergency alerts are turned **on** with sound.



Mutual aid is a great resource. Build a network through your neighbors or join the **NOLA Ready Volunteer Corps**.

TORNADO WATCH

BE READY

TO MOVE TO A SAFE PLACE.

Tornadoes are **possible** in and near the watch area.

it does **not** mean that they will occur.

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE



BE PREPARED

TORNADO WARNING

TAKE ACTION!

GET TO A SAFE PLACE NOW.

A tornado has been spotted. Seek shelter **immediately**.

A tornado is happening or imminent in the area.



Call 911 for an emergency.

Call 311 for information on shelters, evacuation, and other resources.





BEFORE A TORNADO

Don't wait until you see the tornado to act.



Remove any debris or loose items in your yard and secure outdoor items that can be picked up by the wind.



Listen to local area radio, NOAA radio or TV stations for latest info and updates.



Move to a small, windowless interior room or hallway of the lowest level of a sturdy building (no area of a mobile home is safe during a tornado).



DURING A TORNADO

Seek shelter immediately! If outside, protect yourself.



Stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls.



In a high-rise building, pick a hallway in the center of the building. You may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor.



Stay away from bridge/highway overpasses. Lie in an area lower than the level of the roadway.



If strong winds and flying debris occurs while driving, pull over and park, keeping your seat belt on and engine running. Put your head down below the windows, covering your head with your hands and a blanket.



AFTER A TORNADO

Stay off streets until local authorities announce an "All Clear."



Check in with family and friends via texting or social media.



Watch out for debris and downed power lines. Stay out of damaged buildings and homes until local authorities say it's safe.



If you're trapped, don't move. Make noise so that rescuers can find you.



Photograph damage to your property for insurance purposes.

