

TORNADO & SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

ESSENTIAL SAFETY GUIDE FOR RURAL WESTERN KENTUCKY FAMILIES

Living in rural Western Kentucky means being ready for severe weather year-round. Tornadoes can strike with little warning, and your family's safety depends on the preparations you make today. This checklist provides practical steps to protect your loved ones and property.



SAFE ROOM READY

Know your shelter location and practice getting there fast



WARNING SYSTEMS ACTIVE

Multiple alerts ensure you never miss a critical warning



EMERGENCY KIT STOCKED

Essential supplies ready to grab at a moment's notice



FAMILY PLAN PRACTICED

Everyone knows exactly what to do when warnings sound



PROPERTY SECURED

Outdoor hazards minimized to protect home and animals

CORE PREPAREDNESS STEPS

1. DESIGNATE YOUR SAFE ROOM

Identify the safest place in your home (lowest level, interior room, no windows). Ensure all family members know the location and practice getting there quickly.

2. ESTABLISH RELIABLE WARNING SYSTEMS

Do not rely on outdoor sirens alone. Use a trusted weather app, Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and a NOAA Weather Radio with battery backup.

3. ASSEMBLE A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY KIT

Stock a 72-hour supply of water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, first-aid, medications, essential documents, and personal hygiene items.

4. DEVELOP AND PRACTICE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN

Create a written plan with contacts, evacuation routes, and a meeting spot. Practice drills regularly, including in the dark. Know how to shut off utilities.

5. SECURE OUTDOOR ITEMS AND PROPERTY HAZARDS

Trim dead tree branches. Bring in or tie down loose outdoor items like patio furniture, grills, and toys. If possible, release livestock from barns when a warning is issued (human safety first!).

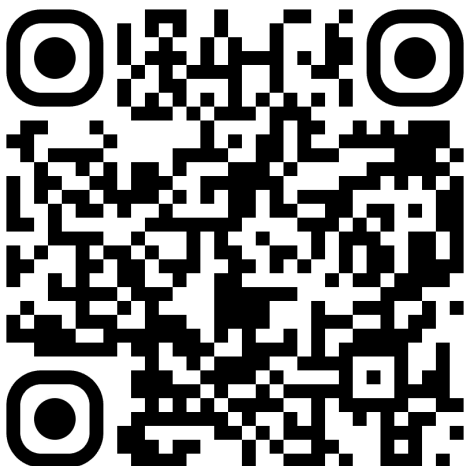
TORNADO WATCH VS. WARNING



KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

- **Tornado Watch:** Conditions are favorable for tornadoes to develop in or near your area. Stay alert and monitor forecasts.
- **Tornado Warning:** A tornado has been sighted or indicated by radar. Take immediate shelter!

Severe weather is a reality of life in Western Kentucky, but being prepared gives you control over your family's safety. These steps aren't complicated, but they could save lives. Start today—your family's safety depends on the preparations you make right now, before the next storm threatens our communities.



For the most precise, real-time weather alerts specific to your location in Kentucky, consider **Weather Brother**. Scan the QR code below to learn more and sign up for critical, hyperlocal notifications that can provide precious extra minutes of warning during severe weather events.

Have a question? Contact Dallas McKinney with Weather Brother

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