



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BULLETIN

Emergency Public Information From:

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security
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Columbus, Ohio 43230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOW TO BE PREPARED FOR A THUNDERSTORM

Severe Weather Awareness Week in Ohio is March 22-28

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security has issued the following preparedness information about thunderstorms – a primary spring weather hazard in Central Ohio – to help keep you and your family safe.

Indoors:

- Stay away from windows.
- Use flashlights if the power goes out. Have a battery-powered NOAA weather radio on hand to monitor weather reports.
- Discontinue use of landline phones and electrical equipment. You may want to unplug appliances and computers.
- Avoid taking a shower or bath. If lightning strikes your house it may send a current of electricity across metal plumbing throughout the house.

On foot outdoors:

- Stay low. If possible, find shelter in a building.
- Keep away from trees, tall objects, metal objects and water.
- Boaters and swimmers should get to land as soon as possible.

While driving:

- Reduce your speed.
- Pull off to the shoulder of the road. Be sure you're away from tall objects, such as trees, which could fall due to wind or lightning. Do not clog highway underpasses.
- Turn on your emergency flashers, and remain in the car until the storm passes.
- Do not touch any metal objects in the car.
- Avoid driving on roads covered by water.

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security, a local government agency, coordinates county-wide emergency/disaster planning, education, warning, response, and recovery to minimize the adverse impact on area residents and property. For more information, go to www.franklincountyohio.gov/emahs/.