

# MANUFACTURED/ MOBILE HOME SAFETY



## STEP 01

## STEP 02

## STEP 03

### Every Day

- ✓ **Identify a Safe Place:** Have a family plan that includes ideas for shelter spaces and emergency locations. If there are current plans, review them.
- ✓ **Know Evacuation Routes:** Have routes planned out for evacuating your home in the event of severe weather. Keep up to date on potential road closures in your community.
- ✓ **Timing:** Know how long it will take you to evacuate your home during severe weather.
- ✓ **Be Weather-Ready:** Check the forecast frequently to see if you are at a risk of severe weather. Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed about tornado watches and warnings.
- ✓ **Sign Up for Notifications:** Know how to get watches and warnings in your community. Check media alerts in your area.

### Day Before Severe Weather

- ✓ **Verify Your Shelter:** Check with your community's Emergency Management on if shelters will be open in your area. Ask questions if need to.
- ✓ **Coordinate with Family/Friends:** Talk with family and friends to discuss spending time at their home if it is safer.
- ✓ **Help Your Neighbor:** Encourage those around you to prepare for the possibility of severe weather. Check on them and offer to help them get to a safe place.
- ✓ **Stay Weather-Ready:** Continue to listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay updated about future watches and warnings.
- ✓ **Transportation:** Make sure all cars are filled up with enough gas to get you to a sturdier shelter. If you do not have a car, contact friends or family to prepare transportation.

### Day of Severe Weather

- ✓ **Execute Your Plan:** If a tornado watch is issued in your community and storms are headed toward your area, it is time to evacuate your home to a sturdier shelter. Take important documents with you. Don't forget your pets.
- ✓ **Stay Informed:** Keep listening to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for more updates about tornado watches and warnings impacting your area.
- ✓ **Contact Your Family and Loved Ones:** Let your family and close friends know where you are evacuating to. Ask if family and close friends in vulnerable housing need to relocate as well.
- ✓ **Last Resort:** If a Tornado Warning is issued for your community before you evacuate, it may already be too dangerous to evacuate to a safer location. Last resort options include driving away (seatbelt on) to a sturdy structure or moving to a protected area outside shielded from potential debris or flooding.



**You can replace your  
possessions...  
...but you cannot replace  
a life.**



## Tornadoes Can Be Deadly

**72%** of all tornado fatalities occur in homes (permanent, mobile, manufactured, etc.)

**54%** of the housing fatalities occur in mobile/manufactured homes, even though MHs only make up 6% of the US housing stock.<sup>1</sup>

Previous research showed that residents are 15-20 times more likely to be killed in a mobile/manufactured home compared to a permanent home.<sup>2</sup> Complete destruction of a MH is expected for wind loads approximately 45% of winds expected to destroy a permanent home.<sup>3</sup>

## No One Is Safe

No matter what type of manufactured home you live in, it is not a safe place to take shelter during a severe weather event. **MOVE TO A SAFER STRUCTURE.**

Single family homes are safer, but not completely safe. After coming to a well-built single-family home or commercial building, it's still important to move to the lowest floor, preferably underground. Keep as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Protect your head with a helmet.

## How to Get Warning Information:



Wireless Emergency Alerts



Internet / Weather Apps



Local TV and Radio



NOAA Weather Radio



Outdoor Sirens



Friends and Family

# Tornado Sheltering Guidelines

Seek the best available refuge area **immediately** when a Tornado Warning is issued. Your chance of surviving a tornado is excellent if you follow these guidelines.

### WORST OPTIONS

Mobile homes

Vehicles

Underneath a highway overpass

### BAD OPTIONS

Large open rooms like gymnasiums

Manufactured housing

### GOOD OPTIONS

Interior room of a well-constructed home or building

Basement

### BEST OPTIONS

Above or below ground Tornado Storm Shelter (NSSA/ICC 500 compliant)\*

Specifically-designed FEMA Safe Room\*

Find another option



Stay in place until all clear

PHOTO: U.S. Air Force - Tech. Sgt. Bradley C. Church

\*Recommended by FEMA



1: S.M. Strader, W.S. Ashley, Fine-scale assessment of mobile-home tornado vulnerability in the Central and Southeast U.S., Weather Clim. Soc. (2018)

2: Brooks, H. E., and C. A. Doswell III, 2002: Deaths in the 3 May 1999 Oklahoma City tornado from a historical perspective.

3: J.R. McDonald, K.C. Mehta, A Recommendation for an Enhanced Fujita Scale (EFScale), Wind Science and Engineering Center, Texas Tech University, 2006.

