

City of McKinney Office of Emergency Management



Before, During, and After a Tornado

Before a Tornado

- Listen and watch for information for Collin County and the City of McKinney.
- Look for the following signs:
 - Dark, often greenish sky
 - Large hail
 - A large, dark, low-lying cloud, including rotation in the sky
 - A loud roar, similar to a freight train
- Have your NOAA Weather Radio on or available in case of a power outage
- Be prepared to take shelter immediately

During a Tornado

If you are in a well-structured home/building

- Stay indoors.
- Take shelter in an interior, windowless room on the lowest level floor. This location may be in a hallway, bathroom, or closet.
- Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- Tune into the local news, radio, or a smart phone device for severe weather updates.
- Remain sheltered-in-place until the threat has diminished.

If you are in a trailer or mobile home

- Pre-plan by identifying an alternate location to go to before severe weather, such as a friend's, neighbor's, or family member's house.
- Get out before the storm arrives.
- Go to pre-planned alternate location and follow the well-structured home/building tips.

If you are in a vehicle or caught outside with no shelter

- Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands.
- Be aware of the potential for flooding.
- Do NOT get under an overpass or bridge.
- Never try to outrun a tornado in an urban, congested area like the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter.

McKinney Fire Department
Office of Emergency Management
2200 Taylor-Burk Drive ~ McKinney, Texas 75071
Office 972-547-2850 ~ Fax 972-547-2858

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After a Tornado

- Continue listening to NOAA Weather Radio or local news coverage.
- Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and sturdy shoes when examining your home for damage.
- Watch for fallen power lines and broken gas lines and report them to your utility company.
- Take pictures of damage of the building and contents for insurance claims.
- Clean up medications, bleach, or other flammable liquids that may become a fire hazard.

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