



Press Release

Date: August 17, 2016
Status: Immediate Release Urgent Release: _____
Subject: Storm and Tornado Safety
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With the recent tornado incident in Brownsburg, people have been asking about tornado sirens and weather safety information. Brownsburg has 14 tornado sirens. We have had several sirens that have been out of service and in need of repair. Chief Alcorn, since being appointed Fire Chief in May, has been repairing sirens that were not working when he was appointed. We currently have three sirens waiting for parts for their repair. If a resident notices a siren not working, please feel free to contact the Fire Headquarters at 317-852-1190.

When people are outside, the tornado sirens are a warning device to warn people to seek shelter and tune in to local weather radio and TV stations for more information. Some people can hear tornado sirens within their home but that depends on the placement of the tornado siren. The sirens are meant to be heard while outside.

Hendricks County Communication Center sets off the tornado sirens when they are alerted by the National Weather Service of a tornado warning in Hendricks County or if a public safety official reports the sighting of a tornado.

Tornado watch (Be Prepared) is when the weather conditions are favorable for a tornado. Tornado warning (Take Action) is when a tornado has been spotted or evidence from weather radar.

We recommend people get weather apps on their smart phones to notify them of severe weather in their area. We recommend everyone have a weather radio in their home to alert them of severe weather.

Weather Safety Tips:

Be prepared. Have safety plans for home and at work.

If outside and severe weather, seek shelter and tune into local weather and radio stations for more information.

If a tornado warning has been issued for your area, go to an interior room of the lowest floor of the building or home you are in. Stay away from windows. Use items like blankets, coats, etc. to cover up from debris.

If driving when a tornado is approaching, go to the nearest substantial shelter. Remaining in your vehicle or getting a ditch provides very little protection and is a last resort. The safest place is to be in an underground shelter, basement, or safe room.