

Thunderstorms Lightning Flash Flooding Tornadoes



Or Not?

An Emergency Preparedness Program for the Philadelphia Region

These can be very dangerous to you and your family.

Are you ready?

Weathering a Storm

If officials tell you to evacuate, grab your Go Bag and leave right away.
Secure lawn furniture or garbage cans that could blow away and cause damage or injury.
In extreme conditions, you may want to shut off power and appliance switches to prevent damage.

Wear the right clothes for the weather conditions.
Listen to KYW 1060 AM so you know what to expect.
Listen to radio broadcasts for detailed weather information from the National Weather Service available 24 hours a day.
Special weather radios are available at local retail stores.

In a Thunderstorm

- Don't touch metal, electrical equipment, telephones, bathtubs, water faucets or sinks.
- Be especially careful with televisions and computer equipment.
- If you are outside, take cover immediately, but DO NOT go near trees.

About Floods

- Not all floods are alike. Some can develop slowly during an extended period of rain, or in a warming trend following a heavy snow.
- Others, such as flash floods, can occur quickly, even without any visible sign of rain.
- Be prepared for flooding no matter where you live, particularly if you are in a low-lying area, near water or downstream from a dam. Even a very small stream or dry creek bed can overflow and create flooding.
- If a flood occurs, go to high ground.
- Never try to drive through deep water.
- If you need to evacuate, grab your Go Bag and leave right away.

Tornado Warnings

- Go to your basement or the lowest point of your home. If you can, go to an interior room or hallway without windows.
- If you cannot find shelter, take cover in a ditch or other deep area.



Or Not?

What to have in your Head, Home and Hand

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What to have in your Head:

Talk with your family about how to handle emergencies. Be ready to **Shelter in Place** for at least 72 hours. Be ready to evacuate, if officials instruct you.

Decide on emergency meeting places – one close to your home and one outside your neighborhood.

Ask a friend or relative out of state to act as your family's emergency contact. If Philadelphia phone circuits are busy, long distance calls may be easier to make.

Plan for everyone – especially seniors, the disabled and non-English speakers.

Give everyone in your house a copy of your emergency plan and emergency contact information.

Twice a year check:

- Smoke alarm batteries
- Emergency plan and contact information
- Food and batteries in your emergency kits.

Sign Up for ReadyNotifyPA

to receive emergency text or email alerts.

Visit ReadyNotifyPA.org or text **PHILA** to **411911**

What to have in your Home:

Put together **Shelter in Place** kit with enough supplies for three days. Include:

- Three gallons of drinking water per person.
- Non-perishable foods
- Manual can opener and eating utensils
- Plastic sheeting to cover windows; scissors and duct tape
- First-aid kit
- Flashlight and batteries
- Radio and batteries
- A whistle to signal for help
- Iodine tablets or one quart of unscented bleach and an eyedropper (If directed disinfect water by adding eight drops of bleach per gallon of water.)
- Personal/child care items
- Non-electric phone

To Shelter in Place:

- Stay calm and go indoors
- Go to a room with few doors or windows, above street level, access to water and bathroom, a phone jack
- Close and lock all doors, windows and fireplace dampers
- Only seal doors and windows when told to
- Turn off all heating and cooling systems
- Listen to KYW 1060 AM
- Keep your pets with you
- Call 9-1-1 for an emergency

What to have in your Hand:

Prepare a **Go Bag** for your household. Include:

- Copies of important documents
- Extra set of keys
- Credit and ATM cards
- Cash in small bills
- Bottled water and non-perishable food
- Flashlight and batteries
- Radio and batteries
- Medication and copies of prescriptions
- First-aid kit
- Comfortable shoes, lightweight rain gear and a blanket
- Emergency contact and meeting place information
- Small regional map
- Personal/child care items

To Evacuate:

- Stay calm and follow official directions
- Secure your home
- Let friends and relatives know where you are going
- Wear sturdy shoes, long pants and a long sleeve shirt.
- DO NOT use elevators
- Listen to KYW 1060 AM
- Get to nearest shelter or safe place ASAP.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness, visit www.phila.gov/ready or call 1-877-READY-11.