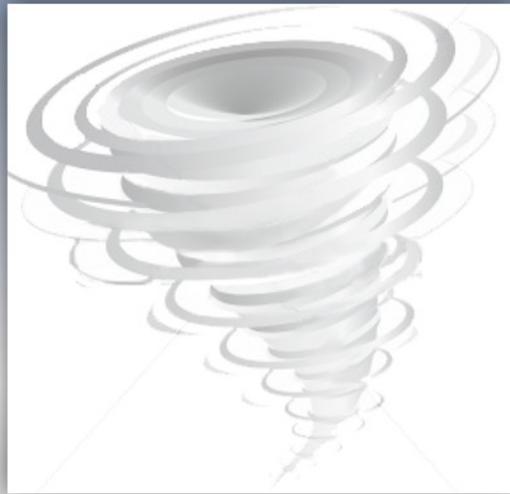




TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY TORNADO SAFETY GUIDE



- WATCH vs WARNING
- TORNADO WATCH & WARNING NOTIFICATIONS
- WHAT TO DO DURING A TORNADO WATCH
- WHAT TO DO DURING A TORNADO WARNING
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WATCH VS WARNINGS

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

WATCH

A tornado watch is issued when there is a good possibility that a tornado will touch down. A tornado watch usually encompasses many counties and last several hours.

WARNING

A tornado warning is issued when severe weather is happening. When a tornado watch is issued, it's time to go to a safe place and put TSU's tornado response plan into action.

HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED?

Tornado Watch: A pre-recorded notification of a tornado watch will be sounded by TSU's outdoor warning systems on campus. TSU also has telephone procedures in place to warn those who are indoors. Those who are indoors and may hear the outdoor warning system are not encouraged to call the TSU Police Department, but to use television, radio or the internet to monitor the weather conditions for themselves.

Tornado Warning: The sirens will sound a steady tone for three minutes. Everyone should stop normal activities and seek shelter until the warning is over. The National Weather Service announces how long a warning will last and the news media will pass this information along. Please note that Davidson County also has an outdoor warning system in Hadley Park which covers part of our main campus

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO DURING A TORNADO WATCH?

During a tornado **watch**,

- Stay tuned to local radio and TV stations or a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio for further weather information. Radio Codes for Davidson County is 047037.
- Watch the weather and be prepared to take shelter immediately if conditions worsen. A **tornado warning** is issued when a tornado funnel is sighted or indicated by weather radar.
- **You should take shelter immediately.**

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO DURING A TORNADO WARNING?

Staff and students will be advised when a tornado warning is in effect and are encouraged to comply with these procedures.

- If you are outside when you hear the warning notification, seek inside shelter, preferably in a steel framed or concrete building.
- If you are inside when you hear the warning notification, go to the interior hallway or other enclosed area that is away from windows and on a lower floor of the building. Avoid going into auditoriums, gymnasiums, or other areas where roof collapse is likely. Take position for greatest safety by crouching on knees, head down with hands locked at back of neck.
- If there is sufficient time:
 - ◆ Evacuate room quickly, quietly and orderly and insofar as possible along the north side of the building to a safe area.
 - ◆ Check restrooms or nearby vacant rooms for students, staff, or visitors.
 - ◆ Take personal belongings only if they are at a desk and will provide extra protection (large books, notebooks, or coats may be held over head and shoulders).
 - ◆ Professors should take roll book and take attendance.
 - ◆ Once in a shelter, report missing students. (Directors and principal administrators should take a similar accounting of staff members.)
- Stay tuned to local radio and TV stations or a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio for further weather information.
- Watch the weather and be prepared to take shelter immediately if conditions worsen.

GENERAL GUIDELINE INFORMATION

- Each building on campus has been assigned a building coordinator and the safest room/ space has been identified in each facility. Click on the link below to identify the building coordinator for your facility. ([Building Coordinator Link](#))
- In either one story buildings or multi-storied buildings, restrooms are usually suitable for small groups, especially if the room is centrally located.
- Auditoriums, gymnasiums, cafeterias, or other large rooms are least suitable as shelters. Free-span roofs will usually be blown away from this type of room and the walls may collapse.
- Rooms with large glass areas should not be used for shelters