A TORNADO WATCH is used to alert you to the possibility of tornado development in your area. A TORNADO WARNING is issued when a tornado has actually been sighted or is indicated by radar. If we alert you to threatening conditions, ACT FAST!

If you don’t have a cellar, basement or safespace, take shelter in a small room in the center of your home on the lowest floor, a bathroom is best. Get in the bathtub. Wrap yourself in a blanket or pull a mattress over you and protect your face and eyes. Wear a helmet, safety goggles and padding if you have them. If a center room is not available, use a small room on an east wall.

If you feel your home is unsafe, familiarize yourself with the shelters available in your community and move your family there before a storm hits. Residents in mobile homes should always move to a pre-selected shelter.

If you are stuck in your vehicle, don’t use it as a means of escape. Cars and trucks can be fatal if used as a shelter. If you are in a storm’s path, move perpendicular to the tornado and find safe shelter. Never seek shelter beneath an overpass.

If you are in an office or factory, go to an interior hallway on the lowest level, drop to the floor and protect your eyes and face. Do not take shelter in halls that open to the south or west. Centrally located stairwells also work well as shelters.

If you are caught by a tornado, avoid buildings with large span roofs and stay away from south and west walls.

LIGHTNING SAFETY

When lightning strikes, remember to seek shelter immediately in a hardtop car or building. If neither is available, find a low-lying space. Avoid trees, poles and metal. Do not use corded phones or electrical appliances. Avoid taking baths, showers and running water.
Use this map to track the storms as they move through the state and keep your family ahead of the storm.

Even the smallest storms have the potential to cause vast damage. You need to be proactive and create safety plans for your family. News On 6 has many tips and information to assist you in your plans. Log on to NewsOn6.com/weathersafety for more information.