

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

JUNE 2011

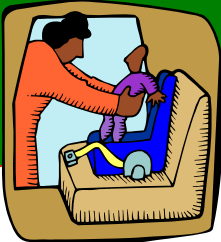
SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

Severe weather is forefront in our minds these days with the unprecedented tornadic activity taking place in the United States this spring. We're also seeing different types of severe weather that quite possibly we've never heard of or had to deal with before, such as squalls and downbursts. "Severe weather" is used to describe meteorological conditions that may cause damage, disruption or loss of life. These conditions take many forms and trying to figure them all out during the actual event is stressful. Familiarizing yourself with the various terms, definitions and what they mean to you can help you make critical decisions.



Car Seat Check

Randy Wise Auto Mall
4350 Lapeer Rd., Flint
Saturday, June 25th
10 a.m.- 2 a.m.



Events

It all starts with your eye on the sky. Cumulonimbus (cumulus) clouds are those tall, dense clouds you'll see at a low or mid level in the sky. These clouds may be seen alone or together as a supercell. The energy within these clouds are created with the release of the water vapors. That energy becomes *lightning, thunder, tornadoes, downbursts, and/or hail*. These elements you will find within a *squall or thunderstorm*.

- Downburst—an extremely powerful downward air current from a cumulonimbus cloud, typically associated with thunderstorm activity.
- Funnel cloud—a rotating column of wind extending from the base of a cloud that has not reached the ground (or water).
- Hail—pellets of ice larger than .2 inches in diameter
- Squall—a brief sudden violent windstorm, often accompanied by rain or snow
- Thunderstorm—a violent storm of thunder and lightning, often accompanied by rain and sometimes hail
- Tornado—a rotating column of wind extending from the base of a cloud that reaches to the ground
- Waterspout—a rotating column of wind extending from the base of a cloud that reaches to

CALL US—WE CAN HELP

- **EMERGENCY**
(810) 762-5666
- **Non-emergency**
(810) 762-0222
- **Campus Closing**
(810) 232-8989

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SEVERE WEATHER ADVISORIES, PREPAREDNESS AND INFORMATION

the surface of the water.

Advisories

There are warning systems in place to help you decide what actions may be considered. These warning systems come as information from the National Weather Service that you may receive from a television or radio station, a website or from a civil defense siren. The National Weather Service uses the following watch and warning definitions for weather events:

Watch: issued when the risk of a hazardous weather or hydrologic event has increased significantly, but its occurrence, location, and/or timing is still uncertain. It is intended to provide enough lead time so those who need to set their plans in motion can do so. This is the time to prepare.

Warning: issued when a hazardous event is occurring or has a very high probability of occurrence. Warnings advise of a threat to life or property. This is the time to act.

It's important to always be analyzing your surrounding for sheltering possibilities. Consider the weather event and plan accordingly.

Preparedness

Being able to provide very basic needs after a weather event may be crucial to survival. A disaster supply kit can assist with those needs. Customize your kit to your family, consider the following:

- Battery-operated radio, with extra batteries
- Flashlight
- Water, 3 gallons per person
- Peanut butter & quick energy snacks
- Canned meats, ready-to-eat soup
- Dry cereal, graham crackers
- First Aid kit
- Medication & medical need items
- Basic tool kit & shut off wrench for gas/water
- Duct tape, rope, paper, pencil
- Personal hygiene items, feminine supplies
- Toiletries, plastic bucket with lid
- Change of clothes and footwear
- Blankets, sleeping bags
- Jackets, hats and gloves
- Specialty items for babies or pets
- Record of bank account numbers, passports, social security cards, immunization records
- Legal documents: birth, death, marriage, will, insurance, deeds, etc.

Information

For more information visit www.ready.gov or www.weather.com/ready.



You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.

- Henry Ford

**Happy
Father's
Day!**

