Severe Weather Awareness Training for Staff/Residents

TIM WHITE

Definitions and Terms

Warning: severe weather is currently occurring in the area

Watch: conditions are favorable for severe weather

Watches and warnings are issued for: severe thunderstorms, hail, flash floods, and tornadoes

Types of Thunderstorms

A thunderstorm is classified as severe if it has any of the following characteristics

- Hail greater than 1" in diameter (dime size)
- Winds greater than 58 miles per hour
- Tornado

Types of Thunderstorms

Single Cell (Pulse):

Generally weak, short lived, and poorly organized

Multicell Cluster:

- Most common type
- Series of cells moving as one unit

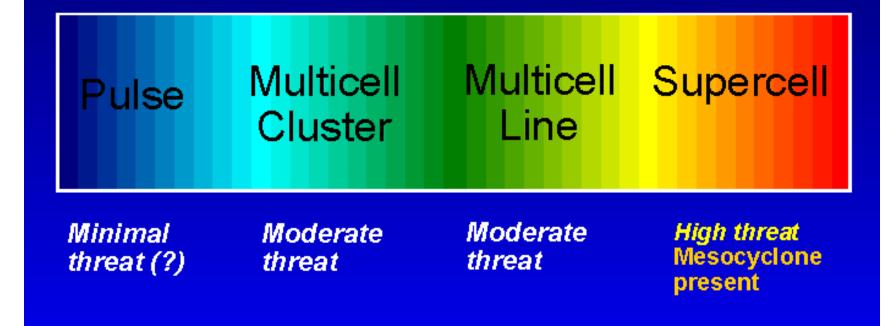
Multicell Line:

- AKA "Squall Line"
- Long line of storms with gust front at leading edge

Supercell:

Very strong and produce severe weather

Thunderstorm Spectrum



Tornadoes

Tornadoes are always dangerous regardless of shape, size, or color

Large cities and mountains are just as prone to tornadoes as wide open fields

Average tornado speed is 30mph, but they can move as fast as 70mph

Do not attempt to outrun a tornado, find shelter immediately

Tornado Fujita Scale

F Scale	Туре	Strength	Winds
0	Gale	Weak	40-72 mph
1	Moderate	Weak	73-112 mph
2	Significant	Strong	113-157 mph
3	Severe	Strong	158-206 mph
4	Devastating	Violent	207-260 mph
5	Incredible	Violent	261-318 mph

Severe Weather Alerts

During periods of severe weather it is important to keep an eye on the sky

Local television, radio, and the Internet are vital sources of information

A S.A.M.E NOAA weather radio is essential for immediate watches and warnings

Be Prepared

Be Prepared – Know Your Surroundings!!

- How would you identify your primary shelter location
- Where is a secondary location?

□ Look for this sign...



Communication

How will I be notified about the need to shelter in place?

VOIP phones!

Police/OEMP direction

Computer screens and emails

Wall mounted flat screens

Bull horns or loud speakers

What to Do?

So I have been informed that I need to shelter in place for severe weather. What should I be prepared to do?

Be Prepared To Act!!!!!

What to Do?

- Do you know what to do?
- What would cause you to shelter in place?
- at risks/ hazards are within your facility?
- What alert technologies would be utilized within your facilities?

Tornadoes: Nature's Most Violent Storm

They may strike quickly, with little or no warning

Most likely to occur between 3-9 p.m. – the time when the least number of staff are on campus therefore increasing the burden on

faculty.

Avg. speed 30-70 mph

Peak season March-May

Moves SW to NE



What to do Before a Tornado

Listen to <u>NOAA Weather Radio</u>, commercial radio, or television newscasts for the latest information.

Look for approaching storms.

Look for the following danger signs:

- Dark, often greenish sky
- Large hail
- A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
- Loud roar, similar to a freight train
- Sign up for weather alerts

What to do During a Tornado

Go to a pre-designated shelter area such as the lowest level of the building.

Think closets & interior hallways - away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls.

Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck.

After the Tornado

Aide the injured (Don't try to move seriously-injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of death or further injury).

Be aware of new safety issues created by the disaster.

Watch for damaged buildings which would include: Contaminated water, gas leaks, broken glass, damaged electrical wiring, and slippery floors.

After the Tornado

- ☐ Remain Calm
- Quickly collect your personal items
- Evacuate using <u>primary</u> route if available

Do not use elevator!

If primary route is unavailable, use <u>secondary</u> route

After the Tornado

Building Damages

Evacuate as soon as possible

■ Watch for glass and other debris

Move to a safe assembly area outside

Severe Weather

Questions?

Thank you!