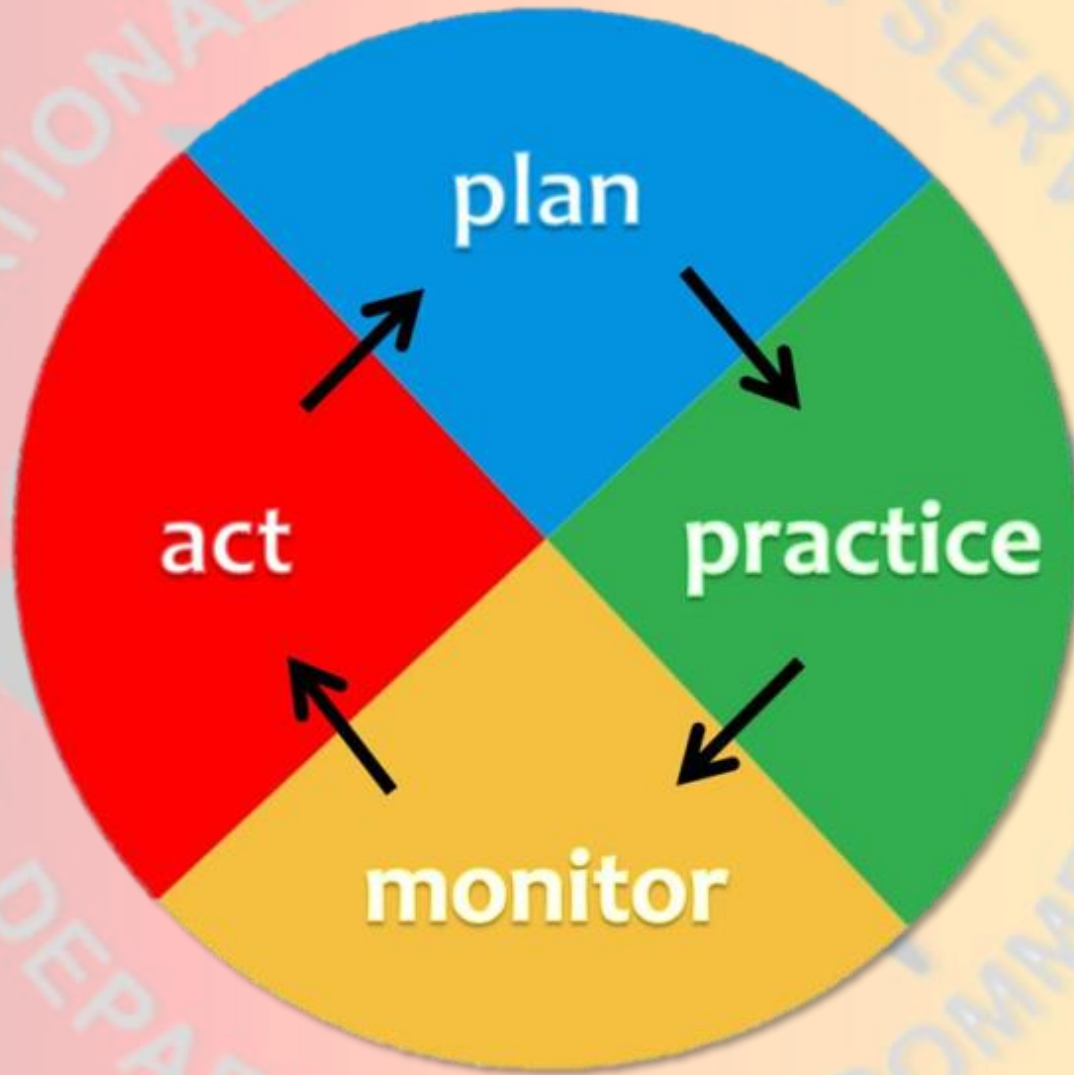


# Preparedness Framework



**for Severe Weather**

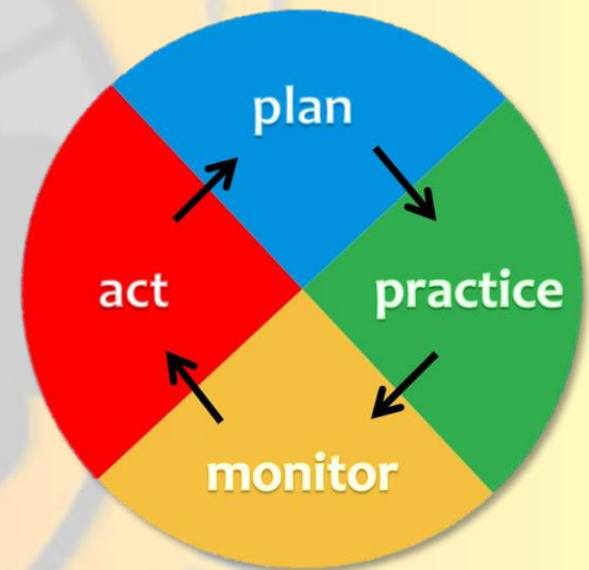
@NWSChicago



weather.gov/Chicago

# PPMA

- **Plan**
  - Home, work, school, outdoor activities
  - Identify safe areas
  - Have a disaster kit
  - Know how to stay weather aware
- **Practice! Practice! Practice!**
- **Monitor**
  - Have a Weather Liaison
  - Multiple ways to receive warnings
- **Act**
  - When severe weather threatens
  - Activate your plan!



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# MAKE SURE YOU KNOW

## Severe Weather Safety

This is a checklist of five basic things you should know about severe weather safety. Knowing this information and utilizing these tips should improve your chances of being safe if severe weather threatens. Be sure that you, and your family or coworkers, are familiar with everything on this list.

### Three Basic Things to Include in Your Severe Weather Safety Plan

- Where to Shelter
- How to Reach Each Other (*communication*)
- Meet-up spot if You Get Separated



plan

### Knowing Important Sources of Weather Information

- NWS Chicago Web Page
- Watches and Warnings

### Have Multiple Ways to Get Weather Information

### Ensure Wireless Emergency Alerts are Enabled on Smartphone

### “Get In, Get Down, Cover Up”



**Self-Assessment: Can you check all five boxes?**



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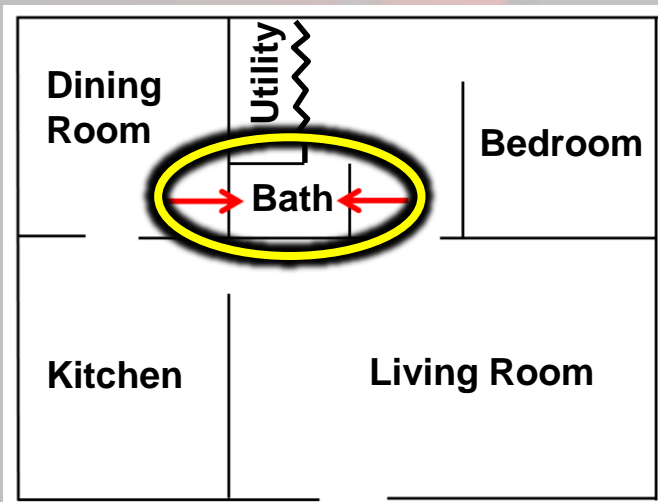
Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)



# SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY PLAN

Three basic things everyone in your home or business should know...

## 1. Pick A Spot



Find a safe, interior room, preferably the lowest level in the building, and let everyone know that's where they should go during severe weather

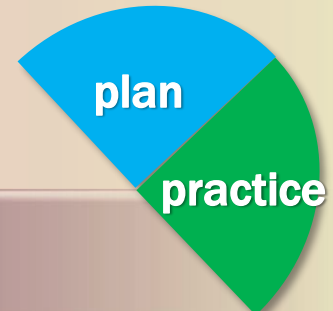
## 2. How To Get In Touch

Everyone should know how to reach one another afterwards. In disasters, texting is often better than calling.



## 3. Choose a "Meet Up Spot"

It's a good idea to have a standard meet up spot that everyone knows.



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Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)

monitor

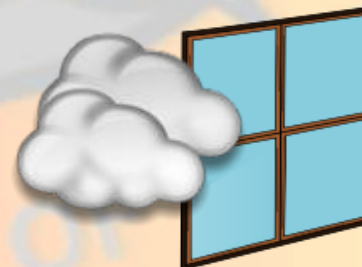
# Weather Liaison

- **Designate a Weather Liaison (watcher of the current weather and forecast info)**
  - Checks forecast and monitors conditions when threatening weather is possible
  - Ideally has the authority to enact the severe weather plan or has direct contact with decision maker
  - Knowledgeable of forecast information



Monitoring information

Keeping an eye on the sky





# Key Pieces of Weather Info

What is the weather going to do?  
Do I need to be concerned?

## Text

WEATHER HAZARDS EXPECTED:

THUNDERSTORMS...SOME MAY BE SEVERE AND PRODUCE:

LOCALLY HEAVY RAINFALL RESULTING IN LOCALIZED FLOODING.  
HAIL UP TO THE SIZE OF QUARTERS  
DAMAGING WINDS UP TO 70 MPH.  
FREQUENT CLOUD TO GROUND LIGHTNING,  
AND POSSIBLY AN ISOLATED TORNADO.

AREAS AFFECTED AND TIMING:

A COLD FRONT WILL SWEEP ACROSS THE REGION THIS EVENING BRINGING  
PRIMARILY A THREAT FOR STRONG AND DAMAGING WINDS ALONG WITH A  
CONCERN FOR A TORNADO. AHEAD OF THE MAIN LINE OF THUNDERSTORMS...  
SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS ARE POSSIBLE LATE THIS AFTERNOON INTO THE  
EARLY EVENING. THE SEVERE WEATHER THREAT SHOULD DIMINISH QUICKLY  
BEHIND THE FRONT. IN ADDITION TO THE SEVERE WEATHER THREAT...SOME  
AREAS HAVE ALREADY SEEN HEAVY RAIN TODAY WITH SOILS SATURATED.  
ADDITIONAL HEAVY RAIN WILL QUICKLY BE CONVERTED TO RUNOFF WITH A  
CONCERN FOR AT LEAST LOCALIZED FLOODING.

DISCUSSION:

A COLD FRONT WILL SWEEP ACROSS THE REGION THIS EVENING BRINGING  
PRIMARILY A THREAT FOR STRONG AND DAMAGING WINDS ALONG WITH A  
CONCERN FOR A TORNADO. AHEAD OF THE MAIN LINE OF THUNDERSTORMS...  
SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS ARE POSSIBLE LATE THIS AFTERNOON INTO THE  
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BEHIND THE FRONT. IN ADDITION TO THE SEVERE WEATHER THREAT...SOME  
AREAS HAVE ALREADY SEEN HEAVY RAIN TODAY WITH SOILS SATURATED.  
ADDITIONAL HEAVY RAIN WILL QUICKLY BE CONVERTED TO RUNOFF WITH A  
CONCERN FOR AT LEAST LOCALIZED FLOODING.

.DAYS TWO THROUGH SEVEN...FRIDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY.

THERE IS A CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS LATE SUNDAY AFTERNOON INTO  
SUNDAY NIGHT...AND AGAIN TUESDAY NIGHT THROUGH THURSDAY.

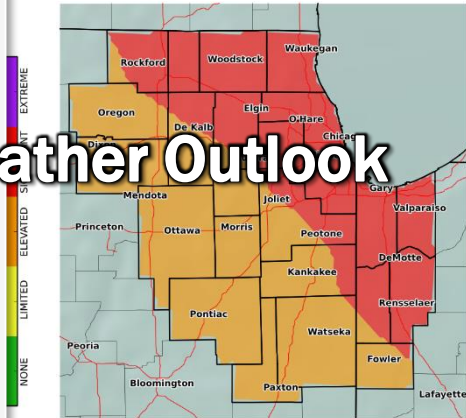
.SPOTTER INFORMATION STATEMENT...

SPOTTER ACTIVATION WILL LIKELY BE NECESSARY THROUGH TONIGHT.

## Graphical

### Snow Sleet Risk

Valid: 01/28/2019 06:00 AM - 01/29/2019 06:00 AM CST

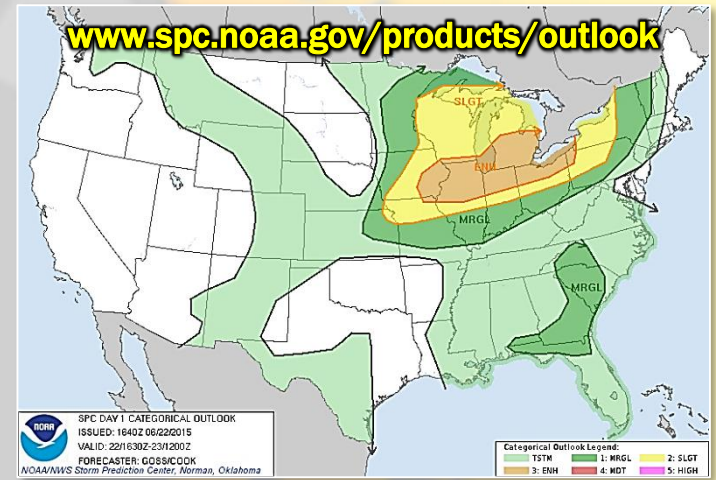


National Weather Service  
Chicago Illinois  
01/25/2019 03:40 AM CST

Follow Us: [f](#) [t](#) [v](#)  
weather.gov/lot

## SPC Outlooks

[www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook)



SPC DAY 1 CATEGORICAL OUTLOOK  
ISSUED: 1640Z 08/22/2015  
VALID: 221830Z-231200Z  
FORECASTER: GCS/CC/CLK  
NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center, Norman, Oklahoma

Categorical Outlook Legend:  
TSTM MRGL  
ENH MDT  
HIGH

# Hazardous Weather Outlook

## Detailed Forecast

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
Partly Sunny High: 39°F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 29°F	Mostly Cloudy then 50% Chance Rain High: 42°F	50% Chance Rain 50% Chance Snow Low: 28°F	50% Chance Rain and Blustery High: 39°F	50% Chance Snow Showers Low: 19°F	Mostly Cloudy High: 20°F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 8°F	Mostly Sunny High: 19°F

**DETAILED FORECAST**  
12 Hour 24 Hour 48 Hour 7 Day

**7-Day Forecast**

**Today** Partly sunny, with a high near 39. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 15 mph.

**Tonight** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 15 mph.

**Sunday** A 20 percent chance of rain after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 42. West southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Sunday Night** A chance of rain before 7pm, then a chance of rain and snow between 7pm and 11pm, then a chance of snow after 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 28. West wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

**Monday** A 50 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a high near 39. Blustery, with a northwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Monday Night** A 30 percent chance of snow showers. Cloudy, with a low around 16.

**Tuesday** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 20.

**Tuesday Night** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 9.

**Wednesday** Mostly sunny, with a high near 19.

**Wednesday Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 9.

**Thursday** Partly sunny, with a high near 26.

**Thursday Night** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 16.

**Friday** A slight chance of snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 38.

**CURRENT CONDITIONS**  
Illinois Valley Regional Airport  
Chicago, IL  
EngleWise  
25°F  
Dewpoint: 24°F  
Humidity: 95%  
Wind: 5.7 MPH  
Barometer: 30.23 in. (hPa)  
Visibility: 5.00 mi  
8 Puffs. Low: 17°F

**FORECAST LOCATION**  
Click Map for another forecast

## Weather Story

**Damaging Thunderstorms Expected this Afternoon!**  
Widespread Damaging Winds Likely

**TIMING**  
1 to 7 PM

**THREATS**  
*Widespread Damaging Winds*  
Large Hail to Half Dollar sized  
A Tornado or Two

**IMPACTS**  
*Widespread Downed Tree Limbs*  
Power Outages  
Damage to Structures

**ACTIONS**  
✓ Have multiple ways to get warnings!

**Severe Weather Threat**  
0 1 2 3 4 5

**Storm Motion: East at 70 MPH**

National Weather Service - Chicago  
Weather.gov/Chicago  
Monday, August 10, 2020 | 11:15 AM CDT


monitor

# NWS Chicago Social Media

- Facebook, Twitter & YouTube
- Providing up to date information on Facebook & Twitter.
- Routine useful information, graphical displays and interaction.

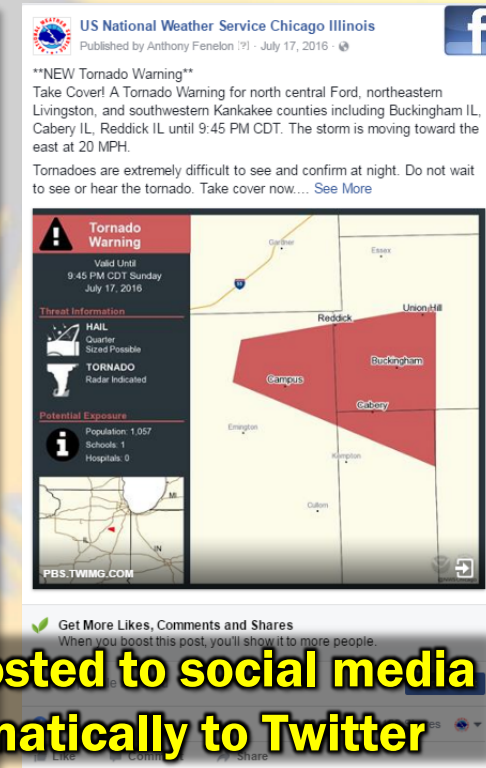
- **Caution: Frequency of updates posted to this feed may vary and followers should not rely on this service as their primary means of hazardous weather notification.**

monitor



**Example of warnings posted to social media**

- **Warnings post automatically to Twitter**



# mobile.weather.gov

The screenshot shows the mobile website for the National Weather Service. At the top, there is a search bar with the URL 'mobile.weather.gov' and a home icon on the left and a menu icon on the right. Below the search bar is the National Weather Service logo and the text 'National Weather Service'. A location selector shows 'Romeoville IL' with a right arrow. A dark grey box contains the text 'Outlook/Statement In Effect' and 'Updated 3:51 PM CST' with a warning icon. The 'Current Conditions' section is titled 'Lewis University Airport' and 'Updated: 25 Jan 15:35 pm CST'. It features a blue sky icon with clouds, the temperature '38 °F', and details: 'Wind S 14 MPH', 'Dew Point 32 °F (78% RH)'. The word 'Overcast' is written below the icon, and there is a plus icon in a circle. The 'Forecast' section is titled 'Forecast' and '25 Jan 15:35 pm CST' with a right arrow. It shows three forecast panels: 'This Afternoon' with a sun icon, 'Tonight' with a moon and clouds icon, and 'Tuesday' with a snowflake icon.

**Set as icon on  
your home  
screen**

**monitor**



# Forecast Points (new website)

**Weekly Summary**

	Wed Oct 7	Thu Oct 8	Fri Oct 9	Sat Oct 10	Sun Oct 11	Mon Oct 12	Tue Oct 13
Max Temp, °F	61	59	72	56	60	58	55
Min Temp, °F	36	36	46	42	39	46	41
Min Wind Chill, °F	45	33	42	38	36	46	35
Max Wind, mph	7	6	12	9	13	9	12
Min Wind, mph	6	3	7	6	8	6	7
Max Wind Gust, mph	20	12	22	16	21	21	20
Max Cloud Cover, %	54	66	83	21	69	75	58
Min Cloud Cover, %	11	4	16	7	19	53	48
Max Prob. of Precip., %	4	13	43	2	22	35	33
Max Prob. of Thunder, %	1	0	21	1	12	12	10
Max RH, %	66	89	83	86	89	89	93
Min RH, %	47	40	55	54	59	62	61
Max Dew Point, °F	38	37	54	43	48	47	44
Min Dew Point, °F	37	32	33	37	38	44	37

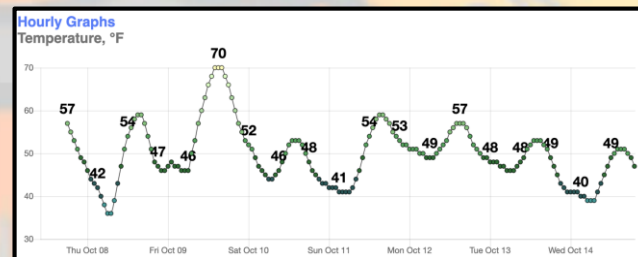
**Weekly  
Summary**

[weather.gov/forecastpoints](http://weather.gov/forecastpoints)

**Hourly Details**

**Day of week:** Friday 10/9

Time:	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	
Weather:	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	
Temperature (°F):	7	54	51	48	47	46	46	47	48	47	47	46	46	46	50	53	57
Wind Chill, °F:	7	54	49	47	45	43	44	44	44	44	43	43	42	43	47	53	57
Wind Speed (mph):	5	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	9	
Wind Gust (mph):	8	8	7	8	10	10	12	12	12	12	12	12	13	14	15	16	
Wind Direction (°):	0	160	140	140	140	140	140	140	150	150	150	160	170	180	190	200	
Wind Direction (°):	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	☁	
Prob. of Precip. (%):	5	3	3	3	5	13	34	43	43	43	43	43	43	7	7	7	
Prob. of Thunder (%):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	21	19	20	16	2	2	2	2	
Precip. Amount (in.):					0.00					0.18						0	
Snow (in.):					0.0											0	
Ice (in.):					0.00					0.00						0	
Dew Point (°F):	5	34	34	33	32	32	32	33	35	37	37	39	41	45	47	49	
RH (%):	3	48	52	55	57	57	56	55	56	61	68	70	77	81	83	80	75
Sky Cover (%):	4	38	41	47	52	58	66	75	83	82	81	80	77	75	62	59	54



**Hourly  
Graphs**

**monitor**

# HOW THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DEFINES THUNDERSTORM STRENGTH



## GENERAL

- No hail
- Winds 45 mph or less

## STRONG

- Hail up to nickels
- Winds 45 to 57 mph
- Heavy downpours

## SEVERE

- Tornadoes
- Hail 1" or larger
- Winds 58 mph or greater

## SIGNIFICANT SEVERE

- Strong tornadoes
- Hail 2" or larger
- Winds 75 mph or greater



monitor

The NWS will only issue warnings when a thunderstorm is severe



# Understanding Severe Weather Outlooks

Issued by the Storm Prediction Center [spc.noaa.gov](http://spc.noaa.gov)

monitor

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense
					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winds to 40 mph</li> <li>• Small hail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winds 40-60 mph</li> <li>• Hail up to 1"</li> <li>• Low tornado risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One or two tornadoes</li> <li>• Reports of strong winds/wind damage</li> <li>• Hail ~1", isolated 2"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few tornadoes</li> <li>• Several reports of wind damage</li> <li>• Damaging hail, 1 - 2"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong tornadoes</li> <li>• Widespread wind damage</li> <li>• Destructive hail, 2" +</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tornado outbreak</li> <li>• Derecho</li> </ul>





## Weather-Ready Nation

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Weather Service  
[weather.gov/tornado](http://weather.gov/tornado)

**SPC Outlooks: Forecasts for organized severe thunderstorms over the U.S.**

monitor

# WATCH VS. WARNING

Do YOU know the difference?

You should be...

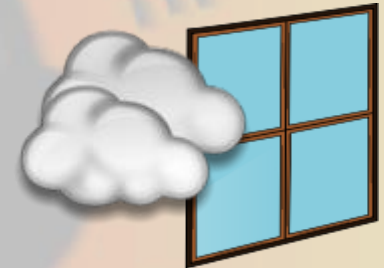
## WATCH BE ALERT.

Severe storms or tornadoes  
MIGHT form & affect your area.



Monitoring information

Keep an eye on the sky



## WARNING TAKE ACTION!

A severe storm or tornado is  
expected in your area.



ACT IMMEDIATELY. GET IN, GET  
DOWN, AND COVER UP.



@NWSChicago

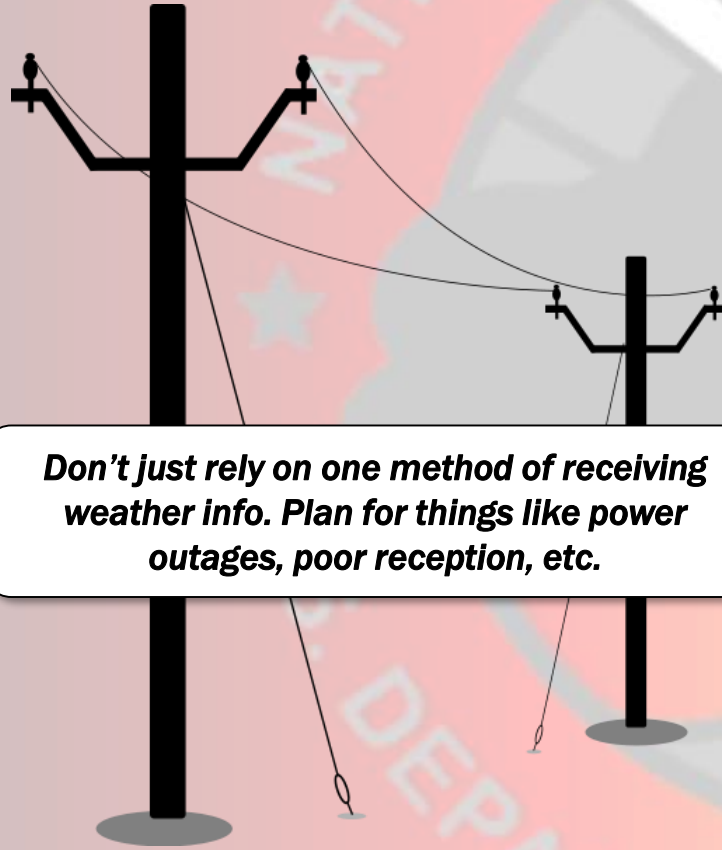
Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)





monitor

# HAVE MULTIPLE WAYS TO GET WEATHER INFO



*Don't just rely on one method of receiving weather info. Plan for things like power outages, poor reception, etc.*

**Battery powered radio**



**Internet**



**Phone**



**Television**



**NOAA Weather Radio**



@NWSChicago

Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)



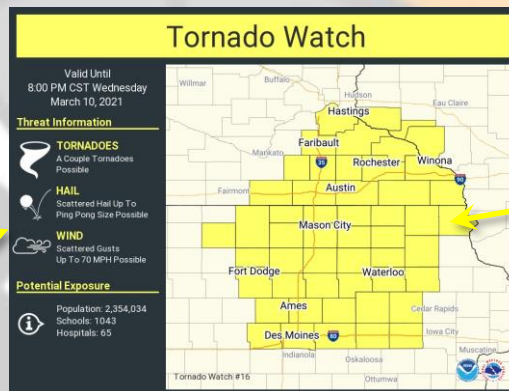
# Convective Watches and Warnings on Twitter

## What Watches Look Like

Watch Type

Watch Valid Time and Date

Potential Hazards in Watch Area



Counties and Cities in Watch

monitor

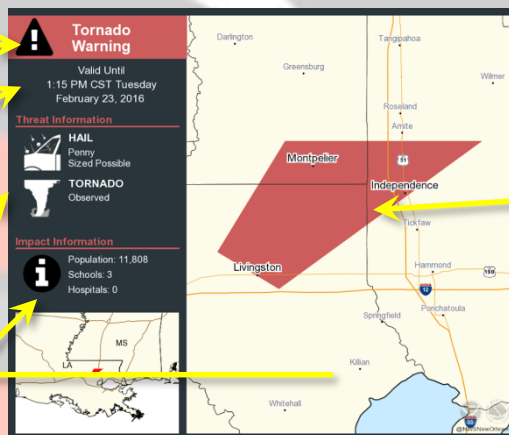
## What Warnings Look Like

Warning Type

Warning Valid Time and Date

Expected Hazards in Warning Area

Impact Information



Area and Cities in Warning

Overview Map

Watches & Warnings Posted Automatically to



@NWSChicago

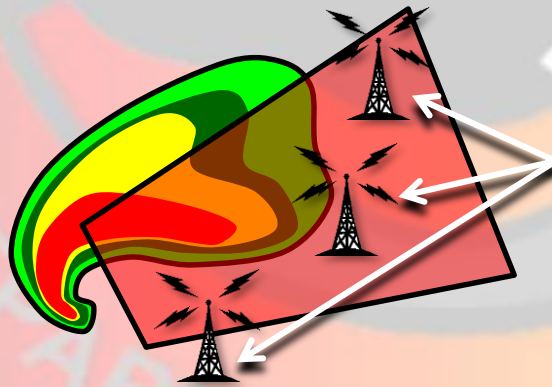
# IS YOUR PHONE WEA READY?

**WEA is...**  
**Wireless**  
**Emergency**  
**Alert**

- Automatic, text-like message informing you of dangerous situations
- No charges to receive a WEA message
- WEA messages have a special tone and vibration



**More Information...**  
[weather.gov/WRN/WEA](http://weather.gov/WRN/WEA)



**If you...**

- ✓ Have WEA messages enabled
- ✓ And are by a cell tower covering a Tornado, high end Severe Thunderstorm, or Flash Flood Warning

*You will automatically receive a WEA*

**monitor**



@NWSChicago

Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)

# NOAA Weather Radio

***“Why would you live in the bullseye of severe weather without one?”***

**Receive weather information  
24-hours a day**

**Radio will sound a loud alarm to  
alert you when a watch or  
warning has been issued for  
YOUR county**

**[weather.gov/lot/NWR](http://weather.gov/lot/NWR)**

**monitor**





# When a **TORNADO WARNING** is Issued

## “Get In, Get Down, Cover Up”

### 1. Get In

Get into a sturdy building and put as many walls between you and the outside as possible.



### 2. Get Down

Get as low in the building as possible – the basement or the lowest floor.



### 3. Cover Up

Flying and falling debris are a storm’s number one killer. Use pillows, blankets, helmets, etc. to cover up and protect yourself.



@NWSChicago

Web: [weather.gov/Chicago](http://weather.gov/Chicago)



# We Have A Plan Too!

- Neighboring offices can provide back-up
- Reinforced shelter
- Routine practice
- Executed plan 8/18/2015





# We Practice What We Advocate!



Tornado Warning included  
NWS Chicago office on 8/18/15

Circulation went directly  
over NWS Chicago office!



SEVERE WEATHER STATEMENT  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CHICAGO/ROMEOVILLE IL  
ISSUED BY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LINCOLN IL  
729 PM CDT TUE AUG 18 2015

ILC197-190045-  
/O.CON.KLOT.TO.W.0035.000000T0000Z-150819T0045Z/  
WILL-  
729 PM CDT TUE AUG 18 2015

...A TORNADO WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 745 PM CDT FOR  
NORTHWESTERN WILL COUNTY...

AT 728 PM CDT...A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CAPABLE OF PRODUCING A TORNADO  
WAS LOCATED OVER ROMEOVILLE...MOVING NORTHEAST AT 30 MPH.

HAZARD...TORNADO.

SOURCE...RADAR INDICATED ROTATION.

IMPACT...FLYING DEBRIS WILL BE DANGEROUS TO THOSE CAUGHT WITHOUT  
SHELTER. MOBILE HOMES WILL BE DAMAGED OR DESTROYED. DAMAGE

- Backup procedures implemented in SECONDS.
- NWS Lincoln updated Tornado Warning while NWS Chicago staff took cover in tornado shelter.
- After it was safe, normal operations returned at NWS Chicago.



# More Information

- **NWS Chicago Severe Preparedness Page**  
[www.weather.gov/chicago/severeprepare](http://www.weather.gov/chicago/severeprepare)
- **Make a plan**  
[www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)
- **Basic disaster supplies kit**  
[www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit)
- **NWS Chicago Web Page**  
[www.weather.gov/](http://www.weather.gov/)
- **WRN Ambassador**  
[www.weather.gov/com/weatherreadynation/ambassadors.html](http://www.weather.gov/com/weatherreadynation/ambassadors.html)



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