



Severe Weather

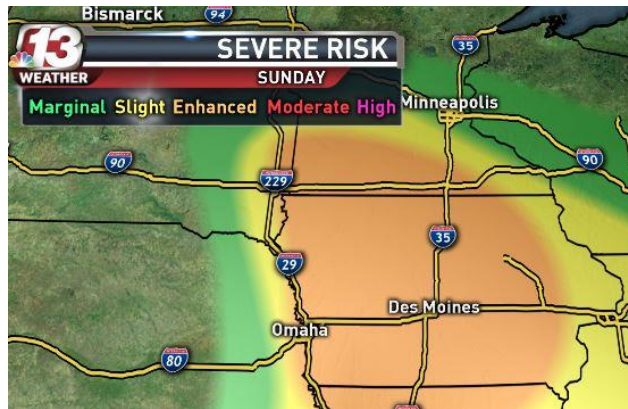
Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the [Occupational Safety web page](#).

General Information

Severe weather can produce lightning, hail, high winds, tornadoes, flash flooding, and extreme heat or cold, all of which can create a hazard for someone working outside. Protecting yourself during a severe weather event can involve a variety of actions with the first being emergency preparedness.

Preventive Measures

- Plan for severe weather and what actions to take.
- Have back up electricity for critical facilities.
- Recognize the potential for severe weather, given that storms can develop quickly.
- Know the weather forecast for the day.
- Know that if you can hear thunder, lightning is close enough to harm you.
- Know where you can seek shelter, if necessary.
- Severe weather watch: Indicates that conditions are favorable for the development of thunderstorms or tornadoes.
- Severe weather warning: Storm is in the immediate vicinity.



Discussion Date:

Supervisor:

Participants:

Severe weather safety tips

- Activate weather alerts on your phone.
- Actively practice situational awareness, as your location changes consider what you would do in a severe weather event.
- Tornado: Take cover below-grade. In a field: lie in a low area or ditch, covering your head with your arms.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle.
- Do not drive over or near downed power lines.
- Keep a list of important phone numbers in order to make calls following a storm.

Resource

<https://www.ehs.iastate.edu/weather>

Source:

<https://www.weather.gov/>