



Altus AFB

Emergency Management

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>Hail</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>How to Prepare</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Contact Information</u>	<u>3</u>

HAIL

What is hail?

Hail is a form of precipitation consisting of solid ice that forms inside thunderstorm updrafts. Hail is often associated with strong winds. It can cause damage to aircraft, homes and cars, and can be deadly to livestock and people.

How does hail form?

Hailstones are formed when raindrops are carried upward by thunderstorm updrafts into extremely cold areas of the atmosphere and freeze. The hailstones grow larger by colliding with liquid water drops, that then freeze on the hailstone's surface.

How fast does hail fall?

The fall speed of hail primarily depends on the size of the hailstone, the surrounding air, and wind speed. Hail can fall from 9 to over 100 mph.

How large can hail get?

The largest hailstone recovered in the United States fell in Vivian, South Dakota on June 23, 2010. It had a diameter of 8 inches and a circumference of 18.62 inches. It weighed 1 lb 15 oz.

Estimating hail size:

- Pea = 1/4 inch diameter
- Mothball = 1/2 inch diameter
- Penny = 3/4 inch diameter
- Nickel = 7/8 inch
- Quarter = 1 inch — hail quarter size or larger is considered severe
- Ping-Pong Ball = 1 1/2 inch
- Golf Ball = 1 3/4 inches
- Tennis Ball = 2 1/2 inches
- Baseball = 2 3/4 inches
- Tea cup = 3 inches
- Softball = 4 inches





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HOW TO PREPARE FOR HAIL

Planning ahead can mean the difference between extensive damage and minor remediable problems. A proper preventive strategy will help you considerably reduce the negative effects of inevitable storms.

Here are the right steps to take in order to prevent hail damage:

- Inspect and maintain your roof. Replace any broken or damaged shingles.
- Keep your trees and shrubbery well-trimmed.
- Properly maintain your outdoor area (fences, sheds, garage, etc.).
- Keep gutters and drainpipes clear of leaves and debris.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A HAIL STORM

To best prepare for an approaching hailstorm, you need to stay alert and stick to the following crucial steps:

- Know the signs of a hail storm (dark clouds, strong winds, heavy rainfall).
- Listen for weather updates.
- Provide shelter for pets.
- Take any vehicles and outdoor furniture to an adequate covered area.
- Tightly close windows and doors.



Did You Know...

According to an NBC report, Oklahoma is the third most disaster prone state in America. Due to this, having a plan and practice in place can become a major lifesaving factor.

AIR FORCE

ALTUS AFB

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Prevent Prepare Respond Recover



**Altus AFB
Emergency Management**

97 CES/CEX

401 L Avenue

Altus AFB, OK 73523

580-481-6137

Email:

emergency.management@us.af.mil

The 97th Civil Engineer Squadron Readiness and Emergency Management Flight is the office of primary responsibility for the Installation Emergency Management Program.

The main purpose of the program is to plan, organize, train, and equip personnel and protect critical infrastructure needed to accomplish the mission against the possibility of a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) incident, terrorist attack, major accident, or natural disaster.

The Readiness and Emergency Management Flight is involved in the emergency planning and training stages through response and recovery. Our highest priorities are force survivability and mission continuation.

SharePoint:

<https://usaf.dps.mil/teams/aetc-alt-97msg-ces/em/default.aspx>

WEB LINKS:beready.af.milfema.govdhs.govready.gov