



Altus AFB Emergency Management

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Thunderstorms, Flooding, and Hail

Thunderstorms, flooding, and hail are all dangerous and can develop with a tornado. While a lot of people enjoy watching the lightning from the storms, it is very dangerous and should be avoided if outside. If you enjoy watching these amazing storms, please do so from the comfort of your home. As you sit and enjoy the storm that is passing by, you may notice that the rain is starting to cause flooding. If at all possible avoid going out into the weather if flooding has occurred. Statistics say that flooding is the #1 weather killer in the U.S. It only takes 6 inches of moving water to knock a person down or stall a car, and 1 foot of water to move a vehicle. If you are caught in a flooding situation, it is best to just get to higher ground. Both thunderstorms and flooding can occur before a tornado, but hail can occur during any stages of a tornado. Hail can be anywhere from a few centimeters to a few inches in size and cause damage to just about everything it hits. What ever you do, do not go outside if it is hailing.



Know the Difference



Being Prepared

Severe Thunderstorm Watch - Tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television for information.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning - Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.

Flood Watch - "Be Aware." Conditions are right for flooding to occur in your area.

Flood Warning - "Take Action!" Flooding is either happening or will happen shortly.

Tornado Watch - Tornadoes are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television for information.

Tornado Warning - A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.

Always be sure to tune into your local radio stations and television channels for updates.

Regardless of the situation or disaster at hand, here are a few things to remember:

- Know your risks
- Have an emergency plan
- Build and restock your emergency kit
- Consider different types of insurance
- Stay tuned in for alerts
- Be aware of your surroundings



For any questions, contact your
Sq Unit Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
or
97 CES/CEX at 481-6136