

# Brought to you in the spring of 2026 by St. Mark's Safety Ministry and the interweb.

## Severe Weather Preparedness

Spring is the most active season for weather events, including **tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, damaging winds, and flooding**. While tornado activity may be lower than last year, thunderstorms can still produce **torrential rain and straight-line winds**, particularly in the Mississippi Valley and Gulf states during March and April. To stay safe:

[American Red Cross+1](#)

- Monitor local weather alerts and warnings.
- Identify a **safe shelter** in your home, workplace, or school.
- Have a **communications plan** to contact family members during emergencies.

<sup>1</sup> Source

## Flood and Water Safety

Spring rains can cause **flash flooding**. Remember the motto: “**Turn around, don't drown.**” Avoid driving through flooded roads, and reschedule outdoor activities if conditions are unsafe. Keep an emergency kit with water, food, and first aid supplies in case of evacuation.

[National Weather Service+1](#)

## Home Safety

Spring is a good time to check **smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms**. Ensure smoke alarms are in every bedroom and common area, and CO detectors are installed outside sleeping areas and on every level of the home. Clear vents and chimneys of debris, and review your **home emergency plan**, including shelter-in-place and evacuation routes.

[National Safety Council](#)

## Outdoor and Workplace Safety

Warmer temperatures and outdoor work increase risks of **heat illness, sun exposure, and insect-borne diseases** like Lyme disease. Tips include:

- Stay hydrated and schedule strenuous activities during cooler parts of the day.
- Wear protective clothing and insect repellent when in tall grass or wooded areas
- Educate workers and family members about **poisonous plants** and other environmental hazards.

- [2 Sources](#)

## Driving Safety

Spring conditions can make roads **slippery due to rain, mud, or melting snow**. Safety measures include:

- Avoid cruise control in wet conditions.
- Check tire pressure and tread.
- Use defrosters, lights, and windshield wipers effectively.
- Pull over if conditions are unsafe.

- [1 Source](#)

## Wildfire Awareness

Dry conditions in parts of the country, including the Four Corners region, Florida, and the mid-Atlantic, increase **wildfire risk**. Follow local fire advisories, maintain defensible space around your home, and have an evacuation plan ready.

[American Red Cross](#)

# Emergency Preparedness

A complete **emergency kit** should include:

- One gallon of water per person per day
- At least a three-day supply of food
- Flashlight, batteries, first aid kit, filter mask, plastic sheeting, duct tape, and essential medicines

[1](#)

- Updated first aid supplies and safe disposal of expired medications

[1](#)

By combining **weather awareness, home and outdoor safety measures, and emergency preparedness**, you can significantly reduce risks and stay safe throughout the spring season.

[1 Source](#)