



MONTHLY PREPAREDNESS TOPIC

HOW TO PREPARE:

- Listen to the radio for critical weather information
- Check disaster supplies and replace or restock as needed.
- Bring items indoors. Put inside anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting. Keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out
- Prepare your home by: turning off propane tank, unplugging small appliances, and filling your car's gas tank.
- Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special needs and make plans for your pets to be cared for.
- Research your community's hurricane response plan.
- Obey evacuation orders. Avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.

SEVERE WEATHER

Types of Severe Weather:

- Thunder / Lightning storms
- Hurricane / Typhoon
- Tornado / High winds
- High heat conditions



DEFINITIONS: (source [CNY](#))

Watch – essentially means a “chance” this condition will happen and usually covers a large geographical area for a lengthy time period.

Advisory – are sort of in between a WATCH and WARNING. The expected weather condition has a pretty good chance of occurring, even a likely chance of occurring, but typically an advisory is used for “less” severe type of weather conditions. A Wind Advisory might be issued or a Freezing Rain Advisory issued instead of a High Wind Warning or an ice Storm Warning.

Warning – means the said weather is already occurring or is likely to occur and to take proper protective measures. Warnings are usually issued for much smaller geographical areas and usually for shorter more definite time periods.

LIGHTNING SAFETY TIPS

- **When thunder roars, go indoors.** Find a safe enclosed shelter such as a home, office, shopping center, or hard-top vehicle with the windows rolled up.
- **Crouch close to the ground and separate.**
If you are caught in an open area, crouch down in a ball-like position with your head tucked and hands over your ears so that you are down low with minimal contact with the ground. Do not lie down – lightning causes electric currents along the top of the ground.
- **Avoid water.** Do NOT bathe, shower, wash dishes, or have any contact with water during a thunderstorm because lightning can travel through a building's plumbing.
- **Avoid windows, doors, porches, and concrete.** Do NOT lie on concrete floors during a thunderstorm. Also, avoid leaning on concrete walls. Lightning can travel through any metal wires or bars in concrete walls or flooring.



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