
tornado drills in your home and office in tornado season.

- If you don't have a basement, an inner hallway or small inner room away from windows makes a good shelter. Avoid large halls, cafeterias, arenas etc.; the roofs are more likely to collapse.
- Get as close to the ground as you can - crouch or lie flat on the floor underneath heavy furniture. Protect your head from debris. If you are caught outdoors, hold on to a bush or tree to prevent the strong winds from blowing you away.
- If you are driving and spot a tornado heading in your direction, drive away from its path at a right angle. If you cannot escape the tornado, get out of the car immediately - it might roll over or be blown through the air. Seek shelter or lie flat in a depression such as a ditch or ravine. If there is no shelter close by, get under the car to protect yourself from flying debris.

Hurricanes

Hurricanes are violent tropical storms. They cause more widespread damage than tornadoes. The outer edges of a hurricane have gusting winds of up to 30km/hour, increasing to gale force and higher

(120 km/hour and above) approaching the calm centre of the storm. Winds on the opposite side of this "eye" blow in the opposite direction.

- High winds and torrential rains cause widespread damage and flooding. Hurricanes create huge waves at sea which reach shore as tidal waves or storm surges. Most people killed in hurricanes are caught in these floodwaters. If you live in a coastal or low-lying area seek higher ground when a hurricane approaches.
- Hurricanes are slow moving. Affected communities may be battered for several hours.
- The centre or "eye" of a hurricane will seldom pass over, but if it does there will be a lull in the wind for a few minutes to half an hour or more. Stay in a safe place. Make emergency repairs only if necessary, and remember: the wind will return suddenly from the opposite direction, with probably even greater force.

Blizzards

Treat these severe winter storms with respect. Their high winds, extremely low temperatures and heavy snowfall can endanger lives in minutes.