

# Severe Weather/Tornado

## Definitions

Tornado Watch: A watch is an indication of where and when the probabilities are highest that severe weather or a tornado could occur. A watch is a statement that severe weather/tornado conditions are present and could occur. The National Weather Service will issue a watch bulletin to local authorities as well as to the local radio and TV stations.

Tornado Warning: When a severe weather/tornado sighting occurs, the National Weather Service alerts all weather stations and local authorities. If severe weather or a tornado is approaching, a continuous sounding of emergency sirens will signal the warning.

## Procedure

A. When the emergency sirens are sounded, all persons should immediately seek shelter in the nearest strong building. Go to the basement or interior walls of lower floors. Auditoriums, gymnasiums and similar large rooms with wide roofs should be avoided. Stay away from all windows and exterior doors.

1. Take a battery-operated radio (if available) with you to listen for instructions.
2. Take a flashlight (if available).

B. Campus Security may telephone (time permitting):

- Housing & Residential Life (on-duty personnel in each residence hall)
- Vice President for Student Affairs
- Vice President for Administrative Affairs
- Vice President for Academic Affairs.

These offices will in turn notify their subordinates.

Note: City of Moorhead emergency sirens are sounded at 1:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each Month from May through September.

## Building Safe Areas During Severe Weather

It is recommended that all persons pre-plan “safe areas” for their buildings.

**Ballard** - Laundry room, kitchen, basement bathroom, room closets

**Bridges** - Inside hallways by faculty offices, bathrooms

**Center for Business** – first floor classrooms and inner offices without windows

**Comstock Memorial Union** - Underground, lower level bathrooms, Rec and Outing center (away from glass) any room without windows

**Dille Center for the Arts** - Lower level and first floor corridors, any room without windows

**Dahl** - Center lounges and stairwells, basement lounge, vending area and basement hallways

**Flora Frick** - Print shop, areas without windows

**Grantham** - Basement, bathrooms, corridors (away from glass in lounge), stairwells

**Grier** – entire basement level, except mechanical room

**Hagen** - Outer offices, lower level corridors

**Heating Plant** - Basement

**Holmquist** - Corridors away from lounge windows, study rooms, interior stairwells

**Houses** – basement

**King Biology** – first floor bathrooms, King 110, inner offices or hallways without exterior windows, lower level stairwells

**Kise** - Move to Comstock Memorial Union

**Library** - Audio visual dept., basement, hallway between circulation desks

**Lommen** - Basement, first floor corridor away from windows/glass

**MacLean** - Basement, bathrooms, east-west hallways

**Maintenance** - Interior rooms and corridors without windows.

**Murray** - Bathrooms, interior rooms, lower level hallway away from glass.

**Nelson** - Stairwells, bathrooms, study rooms, basement, laundry rooms, utility rooms, corridors (away from lounge area)

**Nemzek** - North section bathrooms, offices, locker rooms, first floor corridors without windows.

**Note:** The Fieldhouse is not considered a safe area

**Owens** – first floor bathrooms, post office, inner area of the Business Office.

**Snarr East** - Bathrooms, corridors, floor lounge away from glass, janitor/trash room

**Snarr South** - Stairwells, bathrooms, corridors, elevator lobbies

**Snarr West** - Stairwells, bathrooms, laundry rooms, trash rooms, floor lounges

**Weld** - Lower level hallway, bathrooms, and first floor hallways to faculty offices.

**Regional Science Center** – basement, interior rooms or corridors without windows, bathrooms