

Tornado

A **tornado watch** indicates that conditions are favorable for the formation of a tornado in the area.

In the event a tornado watch has been issued for our area, remain calm and stay inside. Pay careful attention to local radio, TV and Internet reports in the event the watch is upgraded to a tornado warning.

A **tornado warning** indicates that a tornado has actually been sighted or indicated by radar and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

In the event a tornado warning is announced in the area, Ferrum College will sound its outside alert siren when we perceive an imminent threat to Ferrum College students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The College will send text messages to those individuals who have registered their cell phones with E2Campus. We will also attempt to send out information with further instructions in the following ways:

- A campus-wide e-mail will be sent to all faculty, staff, and students via their Ferrum College email address.
- Information will be posted on the College's website www.ferrum.edu.
- A voice message will be placed on extension 5555 of the campus phone system (known now as the information line) or it can be accessed by cell phone by calling 540-365-5555.
- Verbal instructions will be passed along, either in person or by phone tree, by Residence Hall Educators (RHE's), Community Advisors (CA's), and others, as instructed.

If you are alerted to a **tornado warning** you should take the following steps:

- Seek immediate shelter.
- Go to a below-ground level or lowest level of the building. Do not use elevators.
- If there is no below-ground level, go to an interior hallway away from exterior windows.
- Close all doors to rooms with exterior windows.
- Stay away from windows, mirrors, glass and unsecured furniture such as filing cabinets, desks and bookcases.
- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- Remain in the safe area until the threat has passed. Notification of the end of the warning period will be communicated as listed above. Should power be lost, the notification will be via word of mouth, moving from building to building.

- If outdoors during a tornado, seek immediate shelter. If shelter is not available, lie in a ditch or low lying area. Use your arms to protect your head and neck.