

## How Can I Be Better Informed?

Warning the public of severe weather is the National Weather Service's most important job. Everyone needs to be aware of severe weather safety.

- Consider taking a severe weather observation training class offered by St. Louis County.
- Sign up for free weather alerts sent out from the National Weather Service for St. Louis County by visiting [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and searching for St. Louis County Emergency Management .
- Text StlcoOEM to 888777
- Download the St. Louis County Prepares App
- Follow @StlCoOEM on Twitter or Facebook
- Contact the office of Emergency Management at 314-615-9500 with any further questions.

## Police Services

### Resources

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	636-529-8210
TTY Hearing Impaired	636-529-8220 or 911

### Precincts

North County	314-615-4297
Central County	314-615-0111
Affton-Southwest	314-638-5550
South County	314-615-0162
City of Fenton	636-349-8120
City of Wildwood	636-458-9194
West County	636-225-0425
City of Jennings	314-385-4672

### Important Phone Numbers

Emergency Management	314-615-9500
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## A Citizen's Guide to Tornado Sirens, Watches, and Warnings



St. Louis County Police Department  
7900 Forsyth Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105



The St. Louis County Police Department is interested in citizen's opinions about our agency and its employees. Please visit the website below and take our survey.

[www.stlouiscountypolice.com/citizen-resources/citizen-satisfaction-survey/](http://www.stlouiscountypolice.com/citizen-resources/citizen-satisfaction-survey/)



[stlouiscountypolice.com](http://stlouiscountypolice.com)

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# St. Louis County Police Department Siren Policy

The St. Louis County Police Department will activate the “Outdoor Warning System” whenever the National Weather Service issues a TORNADO WARNING for St. Louis County. The “Outdoor Warning System” will also be activated when the National Weather Service issues a TORNADO WARNING for any of the adjacent Missouri counties of Jefferson, Franklin or St. Charles, and the direction of the storm poses a threat to St. Louis County. This policy was created to provide more time for citizens to seek shelter and to gather information for their safety concerning the TORNADO WARNING.

## Signs of Possible Severe Weather

- Dark, often green sky
- Large hail
- Large, dark, low lying cloud
- Loud roar like a freight train
- Rotating cloud

## What’s the Difference Between a Watch and a Warning?

**Tornado Watch:** This means that conditions are favorable for tornado development. This is the time to prepare. You should keep alert by monitoring weather radio, commercial radio or television for weather developments. Review your tornado safety procedures.

**Tornado Warning:** This means that a tornado has been sighted by Skywarn volunteers or indicated by radar. Those in the path of the storm should take immediate life-saving actions for the duration of the warning.

## What Should You Do When You Hear a Tornado Siren?

When the outdoor warning sirens are activated and stormy weather is in the area, individuals should seek shelter and monitor weather alert radio, commercial radio or television broadcasts for details of the storm.

If you are outside, go to a predesignated shelter area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level, such as a closet or interior hallway that is away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls between you and the outside. DO NOT open windows.

If you are in a vehicle, trailer, or mobile home, get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or storm shelter. However, if you are outside with no building available, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of potential flooding, DO NOT get under an overpass or bridge and NEVER try to outrun a tornado.

Immediate evacuation to a shelter may not always be warranted based on the location of the storm, so it is important to monitor a weather resource for the duration of the warning. A “tone-alert weather radio” that receives urgent broadcasts directly from the National Weather Service is strongly recommended; these are inexpensive and widely available.

There is no ‘ALL CLEAR’ message sounded through the siren system. Listen to the National Weather Service or local media sources for this information.