



Natural Disasters; Tornadoes



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What causes tornadoes?

The main meteorological factors that contribute to tornadoes, potentially include instability, which is characterized by warm, moist air near the ground and cooler, dry air above, and wind shear. Which is characterized by change in wind speed or direction with height. In warm humid, unstable air and ahead of cold fronts. Intense thunderstorms have the potential to produce devastating wind and huge hail. Major outbreaks can happen when springtime storm systems produce broad, persistent zones that encourage tornadoes

What affects do tornadoes have on the environment

- They destroy trees and other items are used by animals as habitats and by doing so they harm living organisms.
- The food chain is impacted by the death of animals
- People and animals losing their homes
- Farms can be destroyed by tornadoes leaving people without food
- Water and soil contamination
- Because it kills animals, the food chain is impacted. Because they depend on food to survive and energy to live, animals have the ability to murder other animals.

What affects do tornadoes have on the earths system?

Because of their strong winds, tornadoes have the potential to uproot trees, leaving that area of the earth exposed and vulnerable. Furthermore, tearing down and scattering trees may endanger human life or wildlife.

When warm and cold winds collide in the atmosphere, a tornado is produced. These powerful winds have the potential to carry pebbles that harm the biosphere, which includes people and animals, as well as the geosphere.

Biosphere: They can destroy trees and other items which are used by animals as habitats and by so doing they harm living organisms.

Hydrosphere: Tornadoes, which are violently rotating columns of air extending from the bottom of a severe thunderstorm, have very little impact on the hydrosphere..

Geosphere: Tornadoes can be harmful to the geosphere the dramatic wind speed can rip trees out of the ground leaving that part of the ground open and exposed. Also with trees being ripped up and thrown around it could potentially kill a person or wild life.

Atmosphere: The destruction of buildings by a tornado can release a great amount of asbestos into the atmosphere that then settles and seeps into the ground. Asbestos is a naturally occurring fibrous mineral found in rocks and soil that can remain suspended in the air and enter your lungs when you inhale.

What are tornadoes

A tornado is a short column of air that shoots out of a thunderstorm and veers rapidly toward the ground. A tornado is difficult to spot unless it develops a condensation funnel with water droplets, dust, and other material since wind is invisible.



Facts about Tornadoes

- **Tornadoes can form in any month of the year, not just during “tornado season**
- **The United States sees an average of 1,000 tornadoes each year**
- **Tornadoes can have wind speeds upwards of 300 miles per hour**
- **Tornadoes can form from both supercell and non-supercell thunderstorms**
- **Tornadoes cause an average of 70 fatalities and 1,500 injuries in the U.S. each year.**

What to do during a tornado?

- **Seek shelter: Go to a basement or inside room on the lowest level**
- **Avoid any rooms with windows**
- **Find something to hide under *Like a table***
- **Cover your body with a mattress or heavy blanket and protect your head**

Know Where to Go

When Sheltering from a Tornado

If you have no basement, move to an interior room with no windows.

Top floor rooms DO NOT protect you.

Exterior rooms and rooms with windows DO NOT protect you.

NO PLACE OUTSIDE is safe from a tornado.

Quickly move to your basement and bring your emergency supply kit.



[weather.gov/tornado](https://www.weather.gov/tornado)