



Severe Weather and other important items.....

Severe spring weather hazards

Colorado weather can range from a mild wind storm to a devastating tornado, damaging hail storm, or severe thunderstorm. Colorado's first week of spring in 2003 brought a winter storm that compared to the worst Colorado had seen since 1913.

Some facts

Flash Floods are the number 1 weather related killer.

Lightning kills 75 - 100 people yearly. Nationwide, this is more people than are killed by either tornados or hurricanes.

Large hail causes tremendous damage annually to property and crops.

Compared with other states, Colorado ranks 9th for frequency of tornados, 38th for number of deaths, 31st for injuries and 30th for cost of damages.

The first and most important thing that anyone should do when facing hazardous weather conditions is to use common safety sense. The key to avoiding serious injury or death during severe weather is knowing precautions you can take to survive. Learn what you can do to protect yourself and your family, and help mitigate the damage severe weather incidents may cause. It is critical that your family have a plan for where to meet should severe weather or another emergency strike and you become separated.

Early Warning and Notifications:

In the past the public relied on warnings from sirens, horns and whistles for early severe weather warning. This gave us very little warning of severe weather conditions, and could only be heard within a very small outdoor area. These devices are not capable of providing specific information on weather conditions and what you need to do to prepare, and they are not designed to be heard indoors or in your vehicle.

Today there are several more effective early warning systems that provided you with up-to-date information. These systems are:

- Local Media – Radio, Television, and Internet
- NOAA Weather Alerts via a Weather Alert Radio
- Cell Phone and Pager Notifications

Emergency Response and Emergency Management agencies in Weld County and the Carbon Valley area are recommending that everyone register their home address and cell phone, pager, e-mail, and other devices for early Emergency Notifications at any of the following websites.

Weld County Government - Website: www.co.weld.co.us
City of Dacono - Website: www.ci.dacono.co.us
Town of Frederick - Website: www.frederickco.gov
Town of Firestone - Website: www.ci.firestone.co.us
Frederick-Firestone FPD - Website: www.ffd.us
Mountain View FPD - Website: www.mvfdp.org

Registration is free and only takes a few minutes of your time.

The best practice is to be aware of severe weather in your immediate area. Listen to local media and be prepared. Sign up for early warning notifications on your cell phone or on the internet. Purchase a NOAA Weather Alert Radio for your home and business. These radios provide immediate information that is broadcast by NOAA weather during watches and warnings. These radios can be purchased at local electronic outlets for a small price, usually \$20-\$50.

Here are the websites for the local media out of the Denver area.

9News – www.9news.com/mobile/default.aspx

7News – www.thedenverchannel.com/emailnewsletters/index.html

New4 – www.cbs4denver.com/local/text.alerts.cbs4.2.594147.html

For further information contact the Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District at 303-833-2742