TORNOADO SAFETY

FACTS AND RISK

• Average warning time for a tornado alert is 13 minutes.

• Warning signs include a dark, greenish sky, large hail, and a powerful train-like roar. May appear nearly transparent until they pick up water droplets, dust and debris.

• Are common during thunderstorms, but often occur when it is NOT raining.

• Most tornadoes move from S.W. to N.E. averaging 30 mph and speed burst up to 70 mph. (But can remain stationary.)

• Most likely to occur between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

• 70% of tornadoes occur during March through June.

• An average of 14 people die each year in Texas due to tornadoes, and approx. 200 are injured by flying debris.
DEVELOPE DISASTER PLAN

• Have a disaster supply and first aid kit prepared in advance.

• Pick a safe place to gather during a tornado. Ask your Children's Schools and Daycares what their procedures are.

• Discuss how you could be warned of an impending tornado.
  Campus warning system: Use of Handheld Radios, Weather Radio
  High pitched Sirens mounted on select buildings (be prepared to take cover)

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM: Update cell phone, home phone, text message information at emergency.ttu.edu

WHAT TO DO DURING A WARNING

• Go to your safe place to protect yourself.
  Get under a sturdy piece of furniture and hold onto it. Hold on to anything bolted to the floor.
  Use your other arm and hand to protect your head and neck from flying objects.

• If you are in a high rise building, pick a place in a hallway in the center of the building.

• If you are outside, in a car, or in a mobile home, go immediately to the storm shelter, basement or lowest floor of the nearest sturdy building. If necessary, lie flat in the lowest spot available outside.
WHAT TO DO AFTER A TORNADO

• Continue to listen to the weather radio or watch TV reports.

• Help injured or trapped persons, small children, elderly.

• Watch for fallen power lines or broken gas lines and report them to utility company immediately.

• Avoid disaster areas unless you are part of the rescue and emergency operations teams.

• Stay out of damaged buildings, until an inspector tells you it is safe.

• When entering damaged buildings, use extreme caution.

• Use the telephone only in cases of emergency.

For more information on Tornado Safety contact the Safety office at Operations.Safety@ttu.edu.