

# Ohio's AWWA Safety Committee

Here is a quick safety tip taken from a past AWWA Safety Talk.

## Tornado Season Again!

Most people look forward to the renewal that spring brings. But for many areas of the United States and Canada, spring means tornado season. Tornadoes have appeared in all 50 of the United States and in all provinces of Canada. Tornadoes are one of the most devastating natural events on earth. They have twisted 10-story buildings, flattened bridges, and destroyed communities in a very short period of time. Your best defense against tornadoes is to be prepared and to have a survival plan. Features of your survival plan should include:

1. Keep informed about the weather. Tornadoes come from thunderheads. If you suspect a thunderstorm, listen to the radio for tornado alerts. Treat every tornado alert as if a tornado were going to strike you.
2. When a tornado warning is issued, go to the building's lowest level. Stay away from windows. If you are at home and have no basement, crawl under a sturdy table in the middle of the house.
3. If you are in your car and see a tornado coming toward you, go into the nearest sturdy building. If there is no building, try to park under a bridge or overpass. If you are in open country with no shelter available, abandon your car and find a ditch or depression in the ground. Lie down in it and cover your head with your hands.
4. Never try to outrun a tornado with your car. Forget your possessions; save your life first.
5. Have the proper equipment handy. You need a flashlight with good batteries, blankets, and a portable radio.
6. It is a myth that you can save your home by opening your windows to "equalize pressure." Don't waste time doing this. Protect yourself first.



**REMEMBER...**  
**SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU!**  
**Have a Safe Day**