

This brochure has been developed with the intent of promoting a greater public awareness in understanding the severe weather conditions which may present themselves to residents of the Village of Round Lake Park, IL.

Broadening your knowledge of these severe weather conditions, which effect the Round Lake Park area, will help you to determine how you and your family can prepare for these natural hazards.

This brochure will also provide practical guidance on the preparation for, and battling against, these severe weather conditions. In most instances, preparing for one severe weather condition will serve toward the preparedness of other types of weather conditions, as well.

Use the below listed resources to obtain further information and assistance.

RESOURCES

- Round Lake Park Police Department
www.rlppd.us
- State of Illinois
www.illinois.gov
- National Weather Service Chicago, IL
www.crh.noaa.gov/lot
- Federal Alliance For Safe Homes
www.flash.org
- FEMA
www.fema.gov
- Red Cross
www.redcross.org



VILLAGE OF ROUND LAKE PARK

Round Lake Park
Police Department
215 East Main Street
Round Lake Park, IL 60073

Phone: (847) 546-7275
Dispatch: (847) 270-9111
TDD Phone: (847) 270-9111

WWW.RLPPD.US



EXCELLENCE
INTEGRITY
HONOR

SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY



BE AWARE AND PREPARE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR
A SAFER COMMUNITY

Illinois Severe Weather Conditions

There are a number of severe weather hazards that affect Illinois, including thunderstorms, tornadoes, lightning, floods and flash floods, damaging winds and large hail. Severe weather hazards have the potential to cause extensive property damage, injury and/or death.

TORNADOES

A tornado is a violent, rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground. It can reach speeds of 318 mph but most produce winds from 60-112 mph. Most damage paths are less than 100 yards wide and a couple of miles long but can be up to a mile wide and 50 miles long. Most tornadoes occur in the spring, but they have occurred every month of the year, with an average of 31 tornadoes per year in Illinois.



THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING

Severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes, damaging winds, lightning, hail, or heavy rain and are more likely to occur in the spring and summer. In Illinois, severe thunderstorms frequently occur in the late afternoon or evening. Each year more people are killed by lightning than tornadoes in the U.S. Most deaths occur in open fields (ball fields) and under or near trees. Ninety-six people have been killed by lightning in Illinois in the past 40 years.



FLOODING

Flooding is the number one severe weather killer nationwide. Floods can take several hours to days to develop. The most dangerous type of flooding is a flash flood, which can sweep away everything and everything in their path. Most flash floods are caused by slow moving thunderstorms, and can occur most frequently at night, in mid to late summer. Fourteen people in Illinois have died from floods since 1995. Seven of the fourteen deaths occurred in vehicles. Other deaths occur when people (especially children) play in or near flood waters, and when people living near flooded streams try to protect their property.



BEING PREPARED

1. Know the terms used to describe severe thunderstorm threats:

**Severe Thunderstorm Watch:* Severe thunderstorms are possible. Watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information. Be prepared to take shelter.

**Severe Thunderstorm Warning:* Severe thunderstorms are occurring. Take shelter. Turn on a battery-operated radio or television to receive warnings and severe weather statements.

2. Check the weather forecast before leaving for extended outdoor periods and postpone plans if severe weather is imminent.
3. Keep a list of emergency phone numbers. Teach children how and when to call 911 for emergencies.
4. Maintain a disaster supply kit.
5. Keep important documents and records in a safe deposit box or other secure location.



1. Know the terms used to describe tornado threats:

**Tornado Watch:* Tornadoes are possible. Watch the sky and listen to the radio or television for more information. Be prepared to take shelter. If you see any rotating funnel-shaped clouds, report them immediately by telephone to your local law enforcement agency. If you live in a mobile home, this is the time to move to a more substantial structure.

**Tornado Warning:* A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter. Turn on a battery-operated radio or television and wait for the "all clear" announcement by authorities.

BEING PREPARED CONTINUED

2. Determine the best location in your home and office to seek shelter. A basement or cellar will usually afford the best protection. If underground shelter is not available, identify an interior room or hallway on the lowest level.
3. Conduct periodic tornado safety drills with your family.
4. Decide how and where your family will reunite.
5. Learn how to shut off the utilities to your home.
6. If you live in a mobile home, identify a safe shelter outside of your mobile home such as a community park shelter, a neighbor or friend's house, or a nearby public building.



1. Know the terms to describe flood threats:

**Flood Watch:* Flooding or flash flooding is possible. Be prepared to move to higher ground. Listen to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or commercial television for additional information.

**Flood Warning:* Flooding is occurring or will occur soon. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.

Flash Flood Warning: A flash flood is occurring or is imminent. Move to higher ground immediately.

**Flood Statement:* Minor flooding of creeks and streams, streets, low-lying areas or basement flooding is occurring or is imminent.

2. Learn flood warning signs and, if used in your area, any community alert signals.
3. Know how to shut off electricity, gas and water at main switches and valves. Know where gas pilots are located and how the heating system works.
4. Have check valves installed in building sewer traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains. As a last resort, use large corks or stoppers to plug showers, tubs or basins.
5. Consider measures for flood proofing your home. Call your local building department or emergency management agency (EMA) for information.



For more information on Preparedness before, during, and after severe weather, visit:
www.nws.noaa.gov/om/severeweather/index.shtml