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March 2010 Safety Briefing

Severe Weather

When is Tornado 'season'?

- late spring – early summer (May – June)
- Tornadoes are most likely to occur between 3PM and 9PM

Know the Terms

Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify a tornado hazard:

- Tornado Watch - Tornadoes are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for information.
- Tornado Warning - A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.

Tornado Facts:

- They may strike quickly, with little or no warning.
- They may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms in the funnel.
- The average tornado moves Southwest to Northeast, but tornadoes have been known to move in any direction.
- The average forward speed of a tornado is 30 MPH, but may vary from stationary to 70 MPH.
- Tornadoes can accompany tropical storms and hurricanes as they move onto land.
- Waterspouts are tornadoes that form over water.
- Tornadoes are most frequently reported east of the Rocky Mountains during spring and summer months.

Signs of a Tornado:

- Dark, often greenish sky
- Large hail
- A large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating)
- Loud roar, similar to a freight train.

What to do if you see a Tornado:

If you are under a tornado WARNING, seek shelter immediately!

If you are in:	Then:
A structure (e.g. residence, small building, school, nursing home, hospital, factory, shopping center, high-rise building)	Go to a pre-designated shelter area such as a safe room, basement, storm cellar, or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls. Put as many walls

	<p>as possible between you and the outside. Get under a sturdy table and use your arms to protect your head and neck. Do not open windows.</p>
A vehicle, trailer, or mobile home	<p>Get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy, nearby building or a storm shelter. Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes.</p>
The outside with no shelter	<p>Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of the potential for flooding.</p> <p>Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location.</p> <p>Never try to outrun a tornado in urban or congested areas in a car or truck. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter.</p> <p>Watch out for flying debris. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most fatalities and injuries.</p>

Tornado Shelter at Dayton VAMC Campus:

- In building 305, tornado shelter area of the bathrooms, between front doors and meeting locations.

General Emergency info for Dayton VAMC Campus:

- In case of fire, where are we all going to meet outside?
 - Flag pole near the front entrance to building 305.

Tornado Shelter at Wright Brothers (ASI) Airport:

- At Aviation Sales, Inc. there is a designated tornado shelter in the hanger of the building.

General Emergency info for Wright Brothers Airport (ASI):

- Emergency phone number is 911.
- In case of fire, where are we all going to meet outside?
 - In the grassy area in the opposite part of the parking lot as the building, directly in front of the front doors to ASI.