



Thursday, May 22, 2003

## Weather emergency reminders for campus

This is the season for unpredictable weather. Whether in class or around campus, here are a few things to remember during a weather emergency:

- In Oakland County, whenever you hear a tornado alert siren sounding, seek shelter immediately. "Tornado Posters" are posted throughout all university buildings and indicate shelter areas for each building.
- Tornado alert sirens are activated when a tornado has been sighted in the area.

In the event a tornado siren becomes activated:

- **Weekdays 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.** – The normal duration of warnings is 45 minutes, but also can be extended if required by weather conditions. When warnings occur during regular business hours, a university representative personally will inform those in shelter areas when the warning has ended. Please wait in your shelter area until informed by one of these individuals that the warning period is over.
- **After 5 p.m. and weekends** – During these hours, when office staff is not on hand to deliver messages, those waiting in buildings during a tornado warning should remain in shelter areas for 30 minutes. At the end of that time, if conditions appear safe, you may return to classrooms.
- **Classes in session** – If a tornado warning siren sounds during class and if there is time, faculty immediately should move with the group to a shelter area on the first floor or basement of a multistory building. If there is not time, seek safety in the shelter area identified for your floor as designated on the tornado shelter poster. The Police Department directs that classes not continue during a tornado warning if the classroom is not a designated shelter area on the first floor or in the basement of a multistory building.

The normal daily schedule for the remainder of the day resumes when the warning ends. A tornado warning does not institute a university closing or cancellation of classes.

### SUMMARY

This is the season for unpredictable weather. Whether in class or around campus, this article provides a few things to remember during a weather emergency.

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