



Emergency Preparedness April 2012

With the return of warm weather, the potential for severe storms increases. It's important to not get caught unprepared. Here are a few tips on what you can do. Refer back to our September 2011 tip sheet for more information and a list of important emergency supplies. These lists will soon be available on our website (www.westphaliami.com).

Weather Radio

One of the most useful purchases you can make is a radio that receives NOAA weather alerts.

The latest radios are a big improvement over the older ones in that you can program them to only warn you about alerts for particular counties. Ask for S.A.M.E. technology.

You can also select to receive the warning only for certain classes of messages. In other words, have the alarm go off for thunderstorm warnings but not for thunderstorm watches, etc.

Lightning Safety Tips

- If you can hear thunder, you can be hit by lightning.
- Move indoors or to a vehicle when you first hear thunder.
- During the storm avoid using:
 - Corded phones
 - Computers
 - Swimming pools
 - Other electrical equipment
- Wait 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder before going outside.
- Do not be afraid to help a lightning strike victim. You will not be hurt by the charge.



**Are You
Ready To
Shine In An
Emergency?**

Tornado Safety Tips

- Go to a basement or an interior room on the lowest floor.
- Avoid glass enclosed areas or areas with wide span roofs.
- Avoid areas with windows.
- Avoid hallways that have exterior doors on the south or west.
- Leave mobile homes and move to a substantial structure or tornado shelter.
- If driving, avoid seeking shelter under an overpass.
- Cover yourself with blankets, overcoats, etc. to protect from flying debris.