

# Severe Weather: Watch Versus Warning

Spring is notorious for bringing some of the most severe forms of weather. Thunderstorms, tornados, lightning and flooding events are all common in springtime. Staying informed is crucial to safely navigating these severe weather events, but understanding the severe weather alerts can be confusing. Read on for information on the differences between severe weather watches and warnings and tips for responding to both.

## What Is a Severe Weather Watch?

A severe weather watch means extreme weather is possible in and around where you live. These watches may be issued across broad areas and include several counties or states.

Here are some guidelines for how you can stay safe if a severe weather watch is issued in your area:

- Stay informed by listening to the local radio or the NOAA Weather Radio.
- Know how your community sends warnings (e.g., outdoor sirens or media).
- Have a safety plan ready.
- Prepare your home by securing loose objects, closing windows and doors, and protecting valuable objects if you have time before severe weather strikes.

For more tips on staying safe in severe weather, contact **SCS Agency Inc** today.



## What Is a Severe Weather Warning?

A severe weather warning indicates imminent danger to life or property. These warnings are typically issued over a small area where severe weather has been reported. Here are some guidelines for how you should take action following a severe weather warning:

- Take shelter in a substantial building.
- Bring your pets inside if you have time.
- Stay away from windows.
- Avoid large rooms, such as cafeterias and auditoriums, at work or school.
- Never take shelter under a tree.
- Drive to the closest secure shelter if you're in your vehicle and have time.
- Listen to the local radio or the NOAA Weather Radio to stay updated once you're in a safe location.