

HARDIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

March 2018—Tornado Awareness Month

It is important to think about storms and your ability to remain safe. Planning for emergencies may be the last thought on your mind, but it is important. You should plan with your family a way to contact each other in the event of a storm, as you may not be together when disaster strikes.

After an emergency, you may need to survive on your own for several days. Plan to have an emergency kit for at least seven days of self-sufficiency. FEMA recommends basic items such as water, food, battery-powered radio, flashlight, first aid kit, whistle, dust mask, plastic sheeting, duct tape, garbage bags, wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities), can opener, and local maps. You should consider your prescriptions and other medical needs, your pets, and care of children and seniors.



Harry L. Berry
Judge/Executive

TORNADO SAFETY

- **Identify a safe place** in your home where family and pets will gather
 - In a building, go to a hallway in the center of the building on the lowest floor.
- **No mobile home is safe.**
Go to a nearby sturdy building.
- **Listen to a weather radio** or to a commercial radio or television newscast for the latest information.
- **Be alert** to changing weather conditions. Look for danger signs :
 - Dark or greenish sky
 - Large hail
 - Large, dark, low-lying cloud
 - Loud roar
- **If you are caught outside:**
 - Take cover in vehicle with seat belt buckled and head covered
 - Do not get under an overpass or bridge
 - Protect yourself from flying debris

TORNADO QUESTIONS

Q: What is a tornado?

A: It is a violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground and is often visible as a funnel cloud. Lightening and hail are common in thunderstorms producing tornadoes.

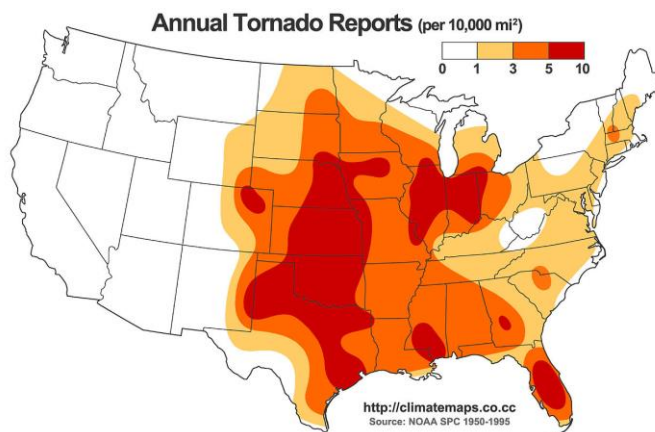
Q: When do tornadoes strike?

A: Tornadoes can strike in any season, but occur most often in the spring and summer months. They can occur at all hours of the day and night, but are most likely to occur between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. The table below shows the average number of tornadoes per month for Kentucky from 1991 to 2015. Kentucky averages 24.2 tornadoes per year.

January	1.4	July	1.0
February	2.1	August	0.5
March	2.2	September	0.4
April	5.0	October	2.2
May	5.3	November	1.6
June	2.3	December	0.2

Q: Where do tornadoes occur?

About 1,200 tornadoes hit the United States every year and every state is at risk. Most tornadoes in the United States occur east of the Rocky Mountains with concentrations in the central and southern plains, the Gulf Coast and Florida. See the map below.



We have numerous emergency warning sirens throughout our county. In the event of severe weather, these sirens will alert you to take shelter. We encourage you to sign up for emergency phone notifications through our website hcky.org. Just look for the RAVE logo at the bottom of our home page. This is a free service provided by your county government.

WATCH means a tornado is possible.

WARNING means a tornado is occurring or will occur soon.

RAVE
MOBILE SAFETY