



2017 Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Drills

Scheduled for Thursday April 20, 2017

The 2017 Tornado Drills will consist of a **mock tornado watch** and a **mock tornado warnings** issued for all of Wisconsin. This is a great opportunity for your school, business and community to practice your emergency plans.

DRILL SCHEDULE:

- 1:00 p.m. – National Weather Service issues a mock tornado watch** for all of Wisconsin (a watch means tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms).
- 1:45 p.m. - National Weather Service issues mock tornado warning** for all of Wisconsin (A warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated on weather radar. Move to a safe place immediately).
- 2:00 p.m. – End of 1:45 p.m. mock tornado warning drill**
- 6:45 p.m. – National Weather Service issues a mock tornado warning** for all of Wisconsin.
- 7:00 p.m. – End of 6:45 p.m. mock tornado warning drill**

NOTE: The tornado drills will take place even if the sky is cloudy, dark and/or rainy. If actual severe storms are expected in the state on Thursday, April 20, the tornado drills will be postponed until Friday, April 21 with the same times. If severe storms are possible Friday, the drills will be cancelled. Any changes will be issued to local media as well as posted on the ReadyWisconsin website at <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov>. Updates will also be posted on Facebook (www.facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin), Twitter (www.twitter.com/ReadyWisconsin) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/ReadyWisconsin).

This is a great opportunity for you to practice your tornado emergency plan with family, friends, and co-workers. Schools will also participate in the drill. During storm season – follow this message: Listen, Act and Live. Don't ignore watches and warnings. Listen and take action. Every second counts. Don't wait... go to a safe place right away!

Many local radio, TV and cable stations will be participating in the drills. Television viewers and radio station listeners will hear a message at 1:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. indicating that "This is a test." The mock tornado warnings will last about one minute on radio and TV stations across Wisconsin and when the test is finished, stations will return to normal programming.

In addition, alerts for both the mock tornado watch and warnings will be issued over NOAA weather radios. Be sure your weather radio is turned on for this test. If the alarm on your weather radio does not go off for this test, check your weather radio's programming and quality of reception.