



# At-A-Glance Severe Thunderstorm

A Preparedness Resource from The Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management

## Severe Thunderstorms can...

- Severe thunderstorms may occur individually, in clusters, or in lines.
- Most severe storms occur when a single thunderstorm affects one location for an extended time. Thunderstorms typically produce heavy rain for a brief period, anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour.

## Did you know?

Thunderstorms often develop rapidly in warm, humid conditions

## Before a Severe Thunderstorm...

- Get a battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio for updates about local weather conditions.
- Learn about emergency plans at your child's school and at your workplace.
- Make a family disaster plan that includes locations to reunite if you become separated. Be sure everyone knows home, work and cell phone numbers, and how to call 9-1-1.
- Prepare an emergency supply kit. Your kit should include water, jumper cables, road flares, tow rope, shovel, cellular phone chargers, and non-perishable snacks for 3 days for each person.
- Make a family communications plan because Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency.

## During a Severe Thunderstorm...

- If you are outside in an open area, go to a low place such as a ravine or valley. Watch for flash floods.
- If you are on open water, get to land and find shelter immediately.
- Close all windows and doors. Stay away from glass windows and remain inside. Draw shades or blinds down as they may protect against flying or broken glass.

## After a Severe Thunderstorm...

- Listen to your NOAA weather radio for updates on weather conditions.
- If someone is struck by lightning call 9-1-1 immediately! Check breathing and pulse and administer CPR if needed. People struck by lightning do NOT carry an electrical charge.

Sources: [ready.gov](http://ready.gov), [NOAA.gov](http://NOAA.gov)

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