



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Tornado Safety Message

Tornadoes are a serious threat for many areas across the country. In an average year, about 1,000 tornados are reported in the United States, according to NOAA. Many of these tornadoes occur in the same geographical areas each year; however, many places across the United States have the right conditions for a tornado. It is important to know about tornadoes and what to do both at home and work if there is one.

Tornado Statistics (source: NOAA.gov)

The top three states that have the highest average of tornadoes each year are Texas, Kansas, and Florida. Tornadoes mostly occur in the months between April and July in the United States. In 2020, 76 people were killed by tornadoes. In 2011 however, there were 553 deaths. Many of the deaths that year were caused by a tornado in Joplin, Missouri which killed over 150 people.

Have a plan for when a tornado threat is in your area. Pick a room in your home where it is safe to go during a tornado. Areas such as basements or an interior room on the lowest floor are the best places to take shelter during a tornado.

At work, know how you will be notified by the company that tornado conditions could be in the area. Know where the tornado shelter is on-site or if the company uses one in the community. Some companies that do not have a tornado shelter on-site will send everyone home as soon as there is a tornado watch in effect. Knowing what to do and executing the emergency plan is essential to protecting yourself and those around you.

Discussion points:

- Do you have a plan at home for a tornado situation?
- What is our policy here at work?