

Tearing Apart Twister Myths

×Tornados can't form over mountains, lakes or large cities

●Tornados Can Hit anywhere no geographic location is totally safe.

×Opening windows Before a tornado will equalize pressure and reduce damage.

● The time taken to open windows drastically cuts down time to seek shelter, leave them closed!

× Highway overpasses can provide safe shelter on a road.

● Overpasses can act as a wind tunnel, increasing the wind speed underneath the deck.

Be READY

Go to ready.gov for more information on how to be prepared.

What does it mean?

Tornado: A tornado is a violent, dangerous rotating column of air that is in touch with the ground and a cloud base.

Watch Issued when conditions are favorable for development with 12 hours. Issued by the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK.

Warning Issued when Doppler radar or spotters have indicated rotating storm or funnel cloud.

PDS Watch/Warning: PDS stands for Particularly Dangerous Situation and is generally attached as a rider to watch or warning statements when the threat is enhanced.

Emergency: Rarely issued but used to relay an extremely dangerous or destructive storm.

Enhanced Fujita Scale

(three-second wind gust - potential damage)

EF0 - 65 to 85 mph - Minor

EF1 - 86 to 110 mph - Moderate

EF2 - 111 to 135 mph - Considerable

EF3 - 136 to 165 mph - Severe

EF4 - 166 to 200 mph - Extreme

EF5 - Over 200 mph - Massive



Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Department of Public Safety
Office of Emergency Preparedness

Severe Weather Safety Guide Tornados



For the latest weather information, go to
www.weather.gov/phi

For other information and safety tips from the
Montgomery County DPS, go to
www.dps.montcopa.org

Last Updated: 11/2010

Fast Facts

- The strongest tornado ever recorded was in Moore, OK with an F5 recorded at 301 mph.
- Through 2005, Montgomery County has experienced 20 tornados.
- Most Pennsylvania tornados occur from May through August, between 3PM and 7PM.

Storm Safety

When a Tornado Warning is issued, seek shelter on the bottom floor away from windows. If in a car, do not try to outrun the storm, pull over and find a ditch or ravine, lie down and cover your head. If you live in a mobile home, seek shelter elsewhere... in a community building or, as last resort, a ditch or ravine.

Give us a shout!

Contact Kevin Wagner
Municipal Planning
Specialist

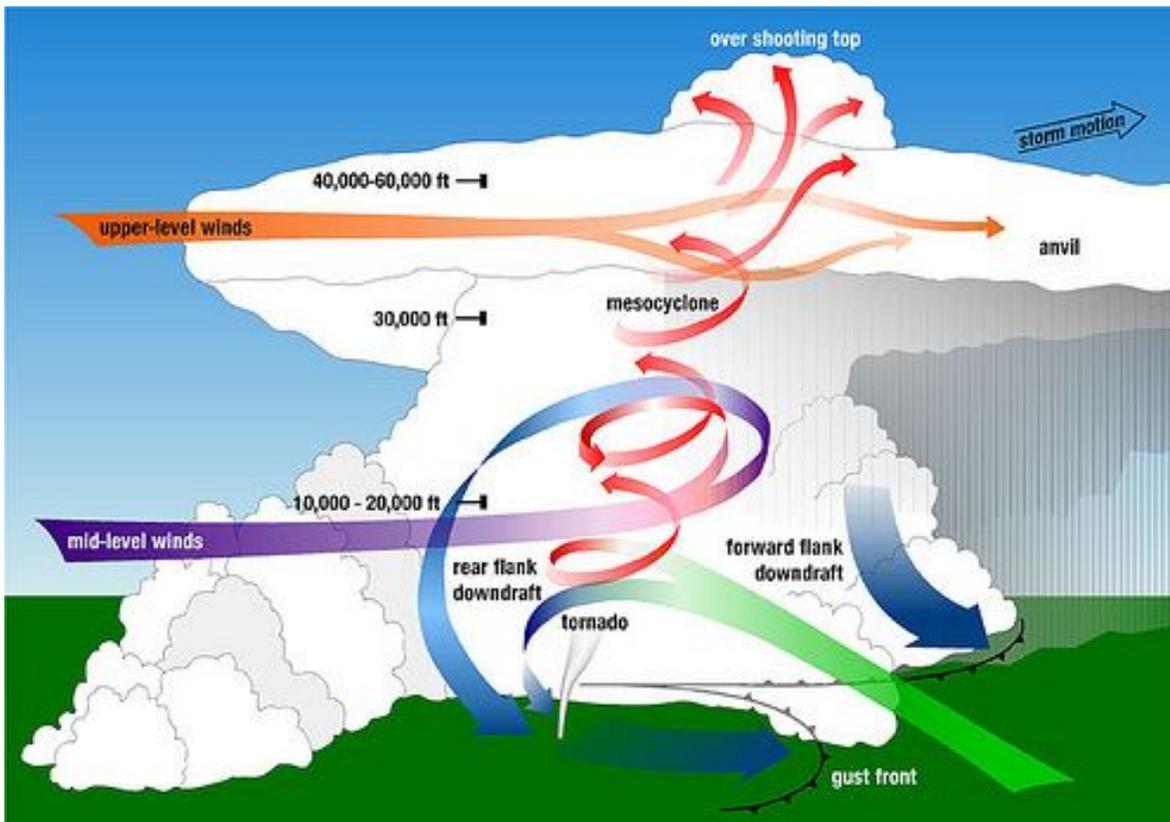
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