



Weather Emergencies

Weather Emergencies: It is best to be prepared for weather emergencies rather than wait for the last minute. Whether it is a tornado, hurricane, strong winds, etc. have a plan and get the following ready ahead of time.

Sirens – Although it is true that there are sirens in Fairfield Glade for tornado warnings, they are from the 1970's and use analog phone lines. They were intended to warn people outside, on the golf courses, at the marinas or some of the hiking trails in the glades. They were **never** intended to warn people in their homes, at night when most people are sleeping or in all parts of Fairfield Glade. Therefore, consider the following:

Weather App for your cell phone – It is important to receive emergency notifications of weather emergencies on your cell phone. There are several apps for both the Android phones as well as the iPhone that you can obtain from the App Store. These apps will alert you of various weather emergencies so you can shelter and be prepared. They include, but are not limited to:

Android

AccuWeather is free for Android and iOS.
Weather Underground is free for Android and iOS.
Dark Sky is \$4 for iOS.
Carrot Weather is free for Android and \$5 for iOS.
The Weather Channel is free for Android and iOS.
Flowx is free for Android.
Geometric Weather is free for Android.
Weather on the Way is free for iOS.
Tornado by Red Cross

iPhone

RadarScope
Hurricane by American Red Cross
The Weather Channel
Dark Sky
WeatherBug
Weather Underground
CARROT Weather
Weather Live
Tornado

Listen to the alert when it goes off. Take it seriously. If there is time, make sure your phone is as charged as possible. Otherwise, take your recharging cord with you and later, if you lose electric power, know which neighbors have a generator where you can recharge your device.

NOAA Weather Radio – A weather radio is an excellent investment to alert you from tornado warnings to flash flood alerts. You need to pick the one that is best to meet your needs as different radios have different functions. These functions can include:

Being portable so you can move it with you.
AC power or fully functioning battery operation
Telescopic antenna
Hands-free lanyard
Built-in LEP flashlight
FM Reception: 87.5 to 108MHz
AM Reception: 520 to 1710 kHz
Convenient Blue LED Backlight for Easy Viewing in the Dark
Separate Advisory, Watch and Warning Lights
Access to all 7 NOAA channels

NOAA Weather Radios can be classified into two different groups:



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- 1-Weather Radios WITH Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME).
- 2-Weather Radios WITHOUT Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME).

The right radio for you can be set to go off for certain counties or the entire state. These weather radios can be purchased in Big Box stores such as Walmart or on-line.

Smart Speakers for the Home – Your Smart Speaker such as Amazon Echo, Google Assistant, Google Nest, Apple Home Pod and others can advise you about severe weather just like your Smart Phones or Weather Radios. To enable weather alerts on an Amazon Echo device, just say “Alexa, enable severe weather alerts.” She will replay that it is enabled and how to turn it off if you wish. Other similar devices like the Google Home or Nest, and Apple Home Pod have similar procedures to enable this feature. Most use AccuWeather to receive these alerts for your area. Use your computer or tablet to find the procedure for your other devices.

Text and/or email alerts from the FG Community Club – Although you will **not** receive weather alerts from the FGCC, it is good to have set up their text and/or email alerts so that you can be made aware of specifics regarding Fairfield Glade in terms of possible road closures, set up of emergency shelters in the area, openings and closings of facilities, etc. You can do that by:

Text Alerts – from your mobile device, TEXT FGCC to 855-746-3422. When you get a return text, reply YES. This will register your mobile number with the texting service.

Email Alerts – Go to the FGCC website at <https://www.fairfieldgladeresort.com>. Then scroll to the bottom and click on the envelope. A form will open up. Complete the information and choose which emails you want to receive.

Build an emergency kit - Your kit should include: A three-day supply (minimum) of water and non-perishable food for each family member, First-aid supplies, Personal hygiene items, Portable radio, Flashlight, Fresh batteries, Basic tools, Work gloves, Portable lanterns, Signaling device (such as an air horn), Prescription medications, Extra car keys, Extra eyeglasses, Cash, Important contact numbers (such as medical centers, insurance agents, utilities, neighbors and family members), Copies of important documents (such as identification, insurance policies, ownership certificates and banking information), car chargers for your electronic devices.

Plan for a safe space in your house – Especially in the case of a tornado, one is generally told to report to their safe place. You need to have thought that out beforehand. Usually, that is a place in the center of your house, away from windows or in a basement/crawl space if possible. If it is in your house, it could be a closet or bathroom or even a bathtub. Choose a room preferably **not** with an outside wall or window. Remember to stay away from windows, doors and outside walls especially when the storm arrives.

Create and practice a plan of action for your family - Discuss where and how you will seek shelter during a storm, ensure that everyone is aware of the location of first-aid kits and fire



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extinguishers, and choose a place for your family to meet if you get separated. Establish a contact person to communicate with concerned relatives, and ensure that you know where and how to shut off utilities at the main switches or valves in case of emergency.

Identify escape routes from your home or neighborhood - Pay special attention to hazards on both sides and above your escape route and be prepared with any additional equipment you may need such as a chain saw, safety ropes or a ladder. Remember that a small creek can turn into a serious water hazard during severe weather.

Secure top-heavy furniture that could topple over - Furniture such as bookcases and dressers should be secured to a wall. Before a storm arrives, move furniture away from doors and windows, if possible so you will have a clear path to escape if necessary.

Maintain your landscaping - Trim trees and shrubbery in your yard, removing weak branches and eliminating trees that could fall on your home during a storm. Falling trees and blowing debris in storms often cause fatalities and severe structural damage. Replace rock or gravel landscaping material in your yard with shredded bark, which won't cause damage if it is blown around by strong winds. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers additional information for protecting your property from strong winds.

"KEEP SAFE BY BEING PREPARED"

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