



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Emergency Management Press Release

From: Sergeant Donna Black
Public Information Officer, 352-797-3609

Re: Public Notification- "Live Tornado Warning Test"

Date: January 27, 2009

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be activated as the National Weather Service conducts a test by issuing a **LIVE TORNADO WARNING** next Wednesday, **February 4, at 10:10 AM EST.** *(In the advent of adverse weather, the drill will be postponed until Friday, February 6, at 10:10 AM EST.)* Weather Radios will be alerted and indicate "tornado warning". Messages may also be broadcast on television and cable companies.

AGAIN, THIS IS JUST A TEST.

Emergency Management recommends all residents to take the time to find out more about the potential hazards you may encounter in your area and review the Tornado Safety Rules below:

TORNADO SAFETY RULES

If at home:

- If you have a tornado **safe room** or engineered shelter, go there immediately.
- Go at once to a windowless, interior room or the lowest level of the building.
If there is no such suitable location, go to an inner hallway or a smaller inner room without windows, such as a bathroom or closet.
- Get away from the windows.
- Get under a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold on to it.
- Use arms to protect head and neck.
- If in a mobile home, get out and find shelter elsewhere.

If at work or school:

- Go to the area designated in your tornado plan. The most interior room, on the lowest floor without windows.
- Avoid places with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums, cafeterias, large hallways, or shopping malls.
- Get under a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold on to it.
- Get down low with your head against the wall and use your arms to protect head and neck.

If outdoors:

- If possible, get inside a building.
- If shelter is not available or there is no time to get indoors, lie in a ditch or low-lying area or crouch near a strong building. Be aware of the potential for flooding.
- Use arms to protect head and neck.

If in a car:

- Never try to out-drive a tornado in a car or truck.
- Get out of the car immediately and take shelter in a nearby building.
- If there is no time to get indoors, get out of the car and lie in a ditch or low-lying area away from the vehicle. Be aware of the potential for flooding.