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Security Spotlight

An Informational Guide for Securitas Clients

Staying safe in a flood

IF YOU ARE UNDER A
FLOOD WARNING,
SEEK SHELTER IMMEDIATELY!

- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Six inches of moving water is enough to knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep away a vehicle.
- Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Turn around, don't drown.
- Determine how best to protect yourself based on the type of flooding. Based upon the situation, you may need, or be told, to evacuate; move to higher ground or a higher floor; or shelter in place.

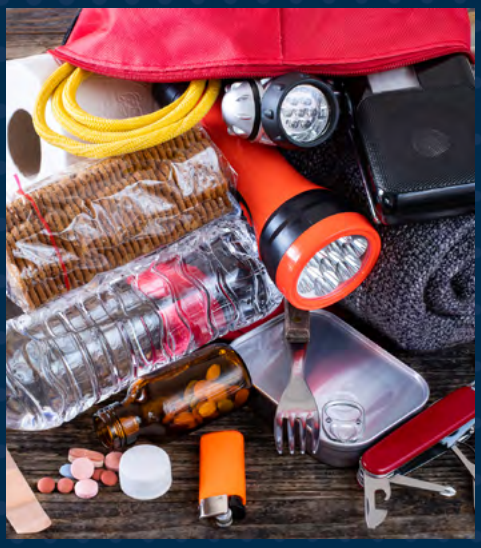
Preparing for severe weather

Severe weather is a year-round occurrence. Geography and season determine the type of weather experienced. Seasonal storms can generate a variety of weather phenomena—from strong winds, wildfires, flooding and tornadoes to hail, ice, and other hazardous conditions—that pose safety concerns. Knowing the environmental risks faced by your workplace can help you prepare to manage possible weather, water, or climate events.

Plan and practice to stay safe

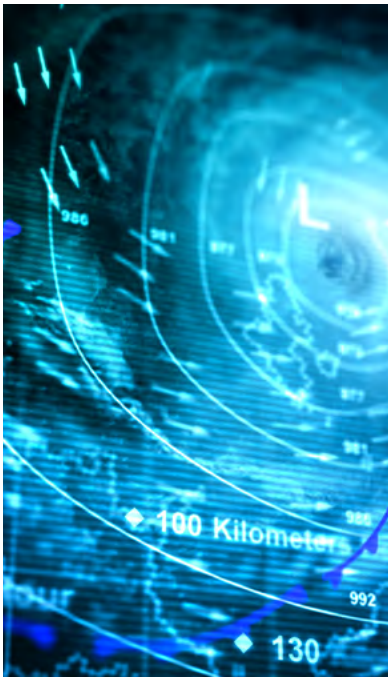
Identify or establish the team responsible for emergency preparedness to develop and practice a plan that takes your area's risk for hazardous weather into account. Workplace safety and emergency strategies should include communication with local, state, and federal law enforcement. Conduct regular safety drills, including fire and severe weather drills to make sure everyone at your site is aware of what is expected. Weather emergency plans should align with other emergency plans for the worksite. Conducting regularly scheduled reviews of your facility's plan will ensure that it is current and accounts for emerging conditions that might impact it. Some things to incorporate into a severe weather plan include the following:

- Register for emergency alerts. In addition to any community-based



Weathering storms

Given the potential for damage, knowing how to prepare, respond, and recover from a storm is important. The ready.gov website provides an extensive list of recommendations that can help you prepare for the different types of weather events that may be encountered in any season. The Red Cross and weather.gov also have information and about preparing and recovering from natural disasters.



system also be aware of warnings from the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio.

- Develop an employee notification system for emergencies.
- Identify shelter areas on-site, such as a FEMA safe room or ICC 500 storm shelter. If these are not an option, a small, interior, windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level that is not subject to flooding can also offer protection from strong winds.
- Become familiar with your evacuation zone, the evacuation route, and shelter locations. Review any workplace emergency plans for evacuation or sheltering in place.
- Know how you will account for those on site and have a plan to provide for the safety of individuals with access or functional needs.
- Have current emergency kits. Periodically refresh the kits to ensure dated supplies are not expired. Maintain at least three days' worth of supplies in case power is lost or there is a delay in reopening stores. Remember to include first aid and wellness supplies such as hand sanitizer, disposable masks, gloves and medications.
- Keep important documents in a safe place or create password-protected digital copies.

Hazards posed by tropical cyclones

Hurricanes are experienced along the Pacific and Atlantic coastal regions of the U.S. Tropical cyclones—which include tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes—can result in a variety of hazards, including storm surge flooding, inland flooding from heavy rains, destructive winds, tornadoes, and high surf and rip currents.

Storm surge—Storm surge is the abnormal rise of water generated by a storm's winds. It is historically the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths and can travel several miles inland, especially along bays, rivers, and estuaries, leaving massive destruction in its wake.

Flooding—Flooding from heavy rains is the second leading cause of fatalities from landfalling tropical cyclones. Widespread torrential rain associated with these storms often causes flooding hundreds of miles inland and can persist for several days after a storm has dissipated.

Dangerous waves—Dangerous waves produced by a tropical cyclone's strong winds can pose a significant hazard to coastal residents and mariners. They can cause deadly rip currents, significant beach erosion, and damage to structures along the coastline, even when the storm is more than 1,000 miles offshore.

High winds and tornadoes—Hurricane force winds can destroy buildings and manufactured homes. Signs, roofing material, and other items left outside can become dangerous flying objects during hurricanes. Tornadoes can also accompany landfalling tropical cyclones. These tornadoes typically occur in rain bands well away from the center of the storm.