

HAZARD-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The following contains information about specific emergencies that may affect Cologne City.

WEATHER DISASTERS

Weather is monitored closely by various government agencies. Severe weather should be taken seriously – it can be dangerous and harm both you and your property.

Severe Weather: Thunderstorms, Flash Flooding & Tornadoes



IN A THUNDERSTORM:

- Avoid handling metal, electrical equipment, telephones, bathtubs, water faucets and sinks because lightning can follow the wires and pipes. Be especially careful with televisions.
- If there is a severe thunderstorm, take cover immediately in a stable facility, but avoid trees.

IN A FLASH FLOOD:

- Seek high ground. Never attempt to drive your vehicle through standing water.

IN A TORNADO:

- Go to your basement or the lowest point of your residence, or an interior room or hallway without windows. If you cannot find shelter, take cover in a ditch or other recessed area.

If you are asked to evacuate, do so immediately.

SOME MEASURES TO HELP YOU WEATHER MAJOR STORMS:

- Shutter or board windows.
- Secure outdoor objects such as lawn furniture or garbage cans that could blow away and cause damage or injury.
- Never touch or go near downed power lines, even if you think they are safe.
- In extreme conditions, consider shutting off power and appliance gas switches to prevent damage to your appliances.

National Weather Service Terms:

Severe Thunderstorm Watch:
There is potential for thunderstorms to form that can produce wind gusts greater than 58 mph and/or hail greater than 3/4 of an inch in diameter.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning:
A severe thunderstorm is occurring.

Tornado Watch:
A tornado could form in the next few hours.

Tornado Warning:
A tornado has been reported and/or the National Weather Service radar has detected a tornado or tornadic signature.

Flash Flood Watch:
Localized flooding due to heavy rainfall is possible.

Flash Flood Warning:
Localized flooding due to heavy rainfall is imminent.

Freezing Rain Advisory:
Minor accumulation of ice due to freezing rain is expected.

Winter Weather Advisory:
A minor accumulation of snow, sleet and freezing rain is expected.

Snow Advisory:
Accumulations of one to four inches expected within a 12-hour period.

Blizzard Warning:
Strong winds, blinding driven snow and dangerous wind chill are expected in the next several hours.

Winter Storm Watch:
Significant accumulation of snow and/or ice is possible within 36 hours.

Winter Storm Warning:
A storm with six or more inches of snow/sleet/freezing rain within a 24-hour period is expected.

See the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov for more information.

DURING SEVERE WEATHER:

- Dress appropriately for weather conditions.
- Stay updated by watching TV or listening to the radio. The National Weather Service broadcasts forecasts, warnings and other information 24 hours a day. Special weather radios are available at local retail stores.