

## Monitor

Monitoring is the most difficult part of the overall plan. The scale of severe weather event occurrence can range from minutes to several hours. All NWS watches, warnings and advisories along with radar information all must be monitored before, during and even after the storm. Failing to monitor greatly minimizes the amount of time the public has to react.

Multiple ways to receive warning information.

- NOAA Weather Radio
- Television
- Commercial Radio
- Internet
- Paging and Other Alerting Systems



Multiple ways to monitor weather information such as radar or current observations.

- Internet
- Television
- Mobile Applications
- On-site Weather Instruments



Pass weather information to customers and visitors.

## Action

The public needs a near continuous flow of information to confirm a threat. The confirmation helps recipients to better understand the warning, believe the warning, personalize the risk, and make response decisions.



A nationwide preparedness program to help communities *and facilities* develop plans to handle all types of severe weather. More information can be found at: [www.weather.gov/stormready](http://www.weather.gov/stormready)

## Know the Terminology

A **tornado watch** is issued when the possibility of tornadoes exists.

A **tornado warning** is issued when a tornado has been spotted or indicated on radar.

Remember: Severe thunderstorms can produce as much damages as most tornadoes!

## Weather Safety Resources

[www.mcswa.com](http://www.mcswa.com)

[www.weather.gov/safety.php](http://www.weather.gov/safety.php)

Michigan Committee for Severe  
Weather Awareness

Insurance Institute of Michigan  
334 Townsend, Lansing MI 48933

[www.mcswa.com](http://www.mcswa.com)

# Weather Safety for Outdoor Venues and Events



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# Plan, Prepare, Monitor and Action

## What is an Outdoor Venue or Event?



Stadiums, speedways, festivals, fairs, farmer's market are

among the many outdoor venues or events that need to prepare for severe weather.

## What are the Severe Weather Threats?



Tornadoes, severe thunderstorm winds, large hail, flooding rains, lightning, and extreme heat or cold are all potential hazards in Michigan.

**The danger is inevitable. A direct strike on a crowded large outdoor venue is only a matter of time.**

## What Can Be Done?

- Mitigation is key.
- Venues and events must make plans ahead of time for severe weather.
- Event staff must have regular training and drills.
- Skywarn Training—for designated weather watchers.
- Weather radio and other warning systems.
- High degree of situational awareness during events.

## Benefits

- Keep attendees, fans, athletes and employees as safe as possible.
- Positive program for any litigation and insurance issues.
- Reputation.



## The Plan

An effective plan is essential. The plan must be communicated to all event members and event customers and visitors. The plan should include procedures before, during, and after the storm strikes.

- Substantial shelters and/or evacuation routes need to be clearly marked.
- Fasten items down.
- Conduct a severe weather hazards risk assessment.
- Have a "warning point". This person or group monitors the weather (radar, NWS watches and warnings) and disseminates important weather information.
- Have trained Skywarn spotters.
- Have criteria and procedures to activate local "warning systems".



## Prepare

Having a plan is not enough. The plan must be practiced through drills and exercises.