

Tornado Preparedness Checklist

Preparing a fraternity house for a tornado involves ensuring the safety of all residents and securing the property. Here's a comprehensive checklist:

PRE-TORNADO PREPAREDNESS

Emergency Plan

- 1. Develop an Emergency Plan:**
 - Designate a safe room or storm shelter.
 - Establish a communication plan for residents and families.
 - Assign roles and responsibilities (e.g., who will gather supplies, who will lead evacuations).
- 2. Conduct Tornado Drills:**
 - Practice the emergency plan regularly.
 - Ensure all residents know the location of the safe room and the quickest routes to get there.
- 3. Create an Emergency Kit:**
 - First aid kit
 - Bottled water (at least one gallon per person per day)
 - Non-perishable food items
 - Flashlights with extra batteries
 - Portable phone chargers
 - Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
 - Extra clothing and blankets
 - Personal hygiene items
 - Important documents (IDs, insurance policies) in a waterproof container

Safety Precautions

- 1. Secure the Building:**
 - Inspect and repair the roof, windows, and doors.
 - Reinforce garage doors and shutters.
 - Install storm shutters or board up windows.
- 2. Clear Outdoor Areas:**
 - Secure or store outdoor furniture, grills, and other items that could become projectiles.
 - Trim trees and remove dead branches.

Communication

- 1. Stay Informed:**
 - Sign up for local weather alerts and notifications.
 - Monitor weather conditions through a reliable source.

2. **Establish Communication Protocols:**

- Ensure all residents have emergency contact information.
- Set up a group messaging system for quick communication.

DURING A TORNADO

1. **Move to the Safe Room:**

- Go to the designated safe room or storm shelter immediately.
- If no designated shelter is available, go to the lowest level of the building, away from windows and exterior walls.

2. **Protect Yourself:**

- Use mattresses, heavy blankets, or helmets to protect from debris.
- Cover your head and neck.

3. **Stay Informed:**

- Use a battery-powered radio or phone to stay updated on the tornado's status.

AFTER A TORNADO

1. **Assess Safety:**

- Wait for official word that the tornado has passed.
- Check for injuries and provide first aid if necessary.

2. **Inspect the Building:**

- Check for structural damage before re-entering the building.
- Beware of hazards like broken glass, exposed nails, and downed power lines.

3. **Document Damage:**

- Take photos of any damage for insurance claims.
- Contact insurance providers as soon as possible.

4. **Stay in Communication:**

- Inform families and authorities about your status and location.
- Follow local authorities' instructions regarding evacuation or shelter-in-place orders.

5. **Support Each Other:**

- Provide emotional support to fellow residents.
- Offer help to neighbors if it's safe to do so.

Regularly review and update your tornado preparedness plan to ensure it remains effective and all residents are familiar with the procedures.



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