

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS

A-State Alerts are the primary way for campus emergency officials to communicate weather emergencies. These text messsges to your mobile device include class cancellations, tornado warnings, all-clear statements, and other forms of hazard communication. These alerts are specific to the physical A-State campus.

Sign up for A-State Alerts:

1. Log on to my.AState
2. Click on "Emergency Alert Setup"
3. Enter up to 3 phone numbers
4. Hit confirm

National Weather Service Memphis issues all weather related watches and warnings for campus. Craighead County and the city of Jonesboro are part of the NWS Memphis coverage area.

Twitter: @NWS Memphis
Facebook: US National Weather Service Memphis Tennessee

Wireless Emergency Alerts: WEA alerts are sent via phone towers, and broadcast on mobile devices in certain situations (such as a tornado warning). These are issued whenever the tower the phone is using is located within the warning polygon. Check your phone settings to ensure emergency alerts are on.

weather.AState.edu: Along with local weather conditions weather.AState.edu displays active severe weather watches or warnings.

NOAA Weather Radio: These radios can be programmed to your county area and can also be programmed by the user to only broadcast the types of alerts you want to be notified about. They are relatively inexpensive (around $35) and offer great redundancy since they are not reliant on internet and have a battery backup.

WHAT TO DO:

Tornado Watch:

When a tornado watch is issued, it means all ingredients are present for potential tornadoes. However, at this point, the ingredients have not yet combined.

1. Monitor weather using mobile weather apps and the National Weather Service
2. Identify where you'll be, where you'll go and what you'll do if severe weather approaches
3. As weather approaches, move to safe areas. For campus, the designated safe area is the Reng Student Union. Note: the window of opportunity to change buildings is during a watch. Once a warning is issued, it may not be safe to leave a building.

Tornado Warning:

When a tornado warning is issued, it means ingredients have started combining and rotation is visible. This rotation may be on the ground (tornado), but it may also be rotating within the clouds (funnel cloud). Rotation is often identified using radar (radar indicated), which is why tornado warnings sometimes don't produce a tornado. However, if a warning is issued, it means that rotation is visible and has the potential of touching down.

1. You should not move buildings – seek shelter at the building you are currently in.
2. If driving, find the nearest sturdy building to seek shelter. Do not stay in the car, under an overpass or try and outrun the storm. Concrete culverts can also be a shelter point.
3. Monitor via radio/mobile devices until the storm passes. Do not leave the shelter until you verify the threat has passed.

The difference between a **watch** and **warning**, pizza style:

Pizza Watch
All the ingredients to make a pizza are present.



Pizza Warning
We're having pizza!

