

## For Immediate Release:

### Prepare! Be Weather Aware!

The Washington Court House Outdoor Warning System (OWS) is now fully automatic and will alarm under three distinct weather conditions.



1. **Thunderstorm Warning** categorized by NWS as **Destructive**. The system will provide one 3-minute activation of the OWS. Destructive Thunderstorms are categorized by winds in excess of 80 mph and/or hail in excess of 2.75 inches.
2. **Tornado Warning** the OWS will cycle 3 minutes active and 3 minutes quiet repeatedly until the warning has been cancelled.
3. **Tornado Emergency** – the highest NWS alert level! The OWS will activate and sound continuously until the warning has been cancelled.

If these conditions occur, take shelter immediately and pay close attention to weather reports. Keep food, water and medications with you as you shelter. Before, during and after weather events, only you can take appropriate actions to prepare and protect yourself and your family!

## TORNADO TERMINOLOGY



### Tornado Watch

Weather conditions could lead to the formation of severe storms and tornadoes. **BE PREPARED:** Know your safe location. Be ready to act quickly if a Warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching.

### Tornado Warning

A tornado has been spotted or indicated by weather radar, meaning a tornado is occurring or expected soon. **TAKE ACTION:** There is imminent danger to life and property. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible.

### Tornado Emergency

An exceedingly rare situation with a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage due to a confirmed violent tornado. **TAKE ACTION:** There is imminent danger to life and property. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible.