

# Severe Weather Information

**Who:** National Weather Service-Sioux Falls Office, hosted by Davison County Emergency Management

**What:** Weather Awareness Training

**Where:** Amphitheater (Tech Center)- Mitchell Technical College

**When:** March 27, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

**Severe Weather Awareness Week in South Dakota:** April 8-12

All School Administrators in Davison County were notified on February 22, 2024, to include that the Mitchell 911 Center will sound all Davison County sirens on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. We highly recommend they use this time to conduct a school tornado drill. One of the best times in Grade School was hunkering down in the halls of the Plankinton School for a Tornado Drill.

**What will be covered:** Weather and thunderstorm basics, weather safety, storm structure, and how to report severe weather to the National Weather Service. The NWS will explain what cloud formations have a high chance of producing severe weather and possible tornados.

**Who should consider attending:** Anyone interested in learning more about Severe Weather is encouraged to attend. However, during a severe weather event, residents would be most valuable by staying at home and reporting in what they see. We have about 30-40 spotters already out in the rural areas. If they see cloud rotation or an actual tornado they should call 911.

**Outdoor Warning Sirens:** We have 11 sirens in the County, 9 in Mitchell, and 1 each in MV and Ethan. You can see specific locations and the 5,000' overlapping coverage area map on our website. Sirens are **NOT** intended to be heard indoors. Sirens are **NOT** activated for Severe Thunderstorms, unless they produce life or property threatening winds.

In Davison County, Outdoor Warning Sirens will sound **ONLY** for the following Severe Weather:

1. Tornado Warnings issued by the National Weather Service.
2. Cloud rotation observed by a trained weather spotter.
3. An actual tornado observed by a trained weather spotter.

**Preparedness:** This is a good opportunity to review your emergency plans to respond to severe storms and tornados. Check your emergency kits, flashlights, batteries, snacks for Dad, etc. You can never be too prepared.