

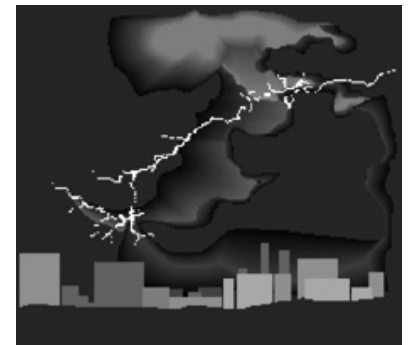
## Emergency Action Plan

### Severe Weather

The effects of severe weather on a business can be devastating. Not only can severe weather damage facilities, it can prove to be deadly to employees. Employees must know how to protect yourself from the effects of any severe weather that is likely to occur at your location whether it is a permanent facility location or a temporary job site. Every employer must have written plans for dealing with emergency weather situations likely to occur .

Types of Severe Weather:

- Winter storms
- Floods
- Tornadoes and severe wind
- Thunderstorms and lightning
- Hurricanes



### Severe Weather Notifications – Warning or Watch?

Severe weather notifications are reported as either a warning or a watch. A **severe weather watch** means that conditions are right for severe weather to develop. A **severe weather warning** means that severe weather is occurring or will occur in the warning area, posing imminent danger to life and property. Take shelter immediately.

### Emergency Action Plan

OHSA regulations require every company develop a written emergency action plan that covers the appropriate steps must take in the event of severe weather. The plan will also explain where shelter areas are located and when it is appropriate for you to go to them.

When developing an emergency alarm system, take into consideration distinguishable alarm types for shelter in place situations and evacuation. A rule of thumb for alarms – if the alarm is a steady tone – shelter in place. If the alarm is a beat or series of tones – evacuate (beat feet).