

Be ready before the storm.

■ Get warnings more than one way

- **Phone:** turn on Emergency Alerts in your settings. They cover tornado warnings and other dangerous warnings.
- **NOAA Weather Radio:** program La Porte County, code **018091**. It works with no cell service, and on batteries.
- **Free alerts:** get watch and warning alerts at **laporteweathernow.com**.
- **Sirens** are for people outdoors. Don't count on hearing them inside or asleep.

■ Tornado warning: take shelter now

- Go to a basement, safe room or an interior room on the lowest floor, away from windows. Cover your head and neck.
- Mobile homes, vehicles and tents aren't safe. Get to a sturdy building if you can do it safely.
- Driving with no shelter nearby? Get down in your car and cover your head, or lie in a ditch or other low spot.
- A **watch** means get ready. A **warning** means act now.

■ Thunderstorms and lightning

- If you can hear thunder, you're close enough to be struck. Get inside a building or a hard-topped car with the windows up.
- Stay inside until 30 minutes after the last thunder.

■ Flooding: Turn Around, Don't Drown

- Never drive or walk into flood water. 6 inches of fast water can knock you down, 12 inches can carry away most cars, and 2 feet can carry away SUVs and trucks.
- Flood water can hide washed-out roads and downed power lines.

■ Extreme heat

- Never leave a child, pet or anyone else in a parked car, not even for a minute.
- Drink water, get into air conditioning, and check on older neighbors and anyone without AC.

■ Winter storms and lake-effect snow

- Lake-effect snow can bury Michigan City while La Porte stays dry. Check the forecast for where you're going.
- **Car kit:** blanket, phone charger, water and snacks, flashlight, ice scraper, small shovel, and sand or cat litter.
- Stranded? Stay in your car. Run the engine about 10 minutes an hour, crack a window, and keep the tailpipe clear of snow.
- Never run a generator, grill or camp stove inside a home or garage. Carbon monoxide can kill in minutes.

■ Power outage

- Keep the fridge and freezer closed. A closed fridge keeps food safe about 4 hours, a full freezer about 48 hours (24 if half full).
- Use flashlights, not candles, and unplug electronics so a power surge can't damage them.

■ Lake Michigan

- Steer clear of the pier. Most current-related drownings happen near piers and breakwalls, and when waves are 3 feet or higher.
- Caught in a current? **Flip, float, follow:** flip onto your back, float, and follow the current or the safest way out.
- Never walk on shelf ice in winter. It can break without warning.

■ Build a kit

- ☐ Water: 1 gallon per person per day, for several days
- ☐ Food that won't spoil, and a manual can opener
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio, or a battery or crank radio
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit and a whistle
- ☐ Phone chargers and a backup battery
- ☐ Medicines, glasses and copies of important papers
- ☐ Cash, and food and water for pets

Numbers to save in your phone

Emergency

911

Danger to life, a fire, injuries or a downed line

NIPSCO outages and downed lines (24/7)

1-800-464-7726

Downed line? Call 911 first

La Porte County Emergency Management

219-362-7210

Michigan City office: 219-873-1499

Shelter, food or utility help

211

Indiana 211: 866-211-9966

La Porte County Sheriff (24/7)

219-326-7700

Toll free: 800-548-5374

Poison Help (24/7)

1-800-222-1222

Free and confidential



Scan for live alerts
laporteweathernow.com
/emergency

Our meeting place:

Out-of-town contact: