



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Safety Reminds Residents to Be Prepared for Dangerous Weather

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – May 23, 2013 – In the aftermath of the storms in Oklahoma, the Calvert County Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management is reminding residents of the importance of safety during a tornado or any weather emergency.

Tornadoes can produce wind speeds greater than 250 miles per hour, can be a mile wide and can stay on the ground for up to 50 miles.

Tornadoes can accompany tropical storms and hurricanes as they make landfall. They are most likely to occur between 3 and 9 p.m., but can occur at any time of the day.

A **tornado watch** means that conditions are favorable for a tornado to form. You should stay tuned to the radio or television news. A **tornado warning** means that a tornado has been sighted. You must take shelter immediately!

If a tornado is approaching:

- If you are caught outside with no shelter, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of potential for flooding. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low, flat location.
- Never try to outrun a tornado in a car or truck in urban or congested areas. Instead immediately leave the vehicle and go to safe shelter. Tornadoes are erratic and move swiftly.

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After a storm, it is not uncommon to see clear, sunlit skies behind a tornado. Stay away from storm-damaged areas. Listen to the radio for information and instructions.

For more information about tornadoes or other emergencies, contact the Calvert County Division of Emergency Management at 410-535-1600, ext. 2638, or visit us on the web at www.co.cal.md.us.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services. Like us on Facebook by searching for Calvert County Government, Calvert County, Maryland.