



For Immediate Release  
February 25, 2016

## Mid-South Severe Weather Awareness Week



**Photo Caption:** Gary Woodall, NWS Warning Coordinator, shares information about Severe Weather Awareness Week at the Shelby County Emergency Operations Center

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness (SCOP), in partnership with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Memphis, invites citizens to learn about weather safety during **February 28 - March 5, Mid-South Severe Weather Awareness Week**.

“Heeding the watches and warnings from the National Weather Service and having a plan to shelter is key to survival,” said Dale Lane, SCOP Director. “We encourage citizens to take advantage of the National Weather Service’s educational opportunities during **Mid-South Severe Weather Awareness Week**.”

“We appreciate the partnership we have with the National Weather Service. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness works closely with citizens and neighborhood groups to ensure they know what to do when severe weather occurs,” added Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

Gary Woodall, NWS Warning Coordinator, rolled out the week’s activities on February 18, during the Urban Area Security Initiative meeting at the Shelby County Emergency Operations Center. They include:

- Monday, February 29: **Severe Thunderstorms**
- Tuesday, March 1: **Floods**
- Wednesday, March 2: **Tornadoes**
- Thursday, March 3: **Lightning**
- Friday, March 4: **Watches and Warnings**

A tornado drill is scheduled for March 2 at 9:15 a.m. NOAA weather radios will broadcast the weekly test message as well as information about the drill.

The NWS website will display new Hazardous Weather Outlook graphics and weather statements. The public is invited to engage in the NWS Twitter Chat sessions. And a “Safety Selfie” campaign asks citizens to take a self-portrait in their “safe place” at home or work and share it with the NWS.

Jane Waldrop, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) West Regional Director, invited agencies who are promoting Mid-South Severe Weather Awareness Week, to send their initiatives to TEMA.

To find out more about Mid-South Severe Weather Awareness Week, please visit:  
[www.srh.noaa.gov/meg/](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/meg/)

**Severe Weather Resources:**

- ReadyTN: [www.tnema.org/ReadyTN](http://www.tnema.org/ReadyTN)
- Shelby County Office of Preparedness: [www.staysafeshelby.us](http://www.staysafeshelby.us)
- Tennessee Emergency Management Agency: [www.tnema.org](http://www.tnema.org)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

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