



## For Immediate Release

February 18, 2015

### Tennessee Severe Weather Awareness Week



**Photo Caption:** A vehicle navigates icy streets in downtown Memphis, February 17, 2015

February 15 – 21, 2015 is **Severe Weather Awareness Week in Tennessee**. Each day of the week is dedicated to one aspect of severe weather and how to best prepare for and survive it.

Director Dale Lane, Shelby County Office of Preparedness, said, “Severe Weather Awareness Week had special significance for us this year! We were reminded that severe weather can occur any time of the year. On February 15 we activated the Emergency Operations Center to coordinate the response to winter storm warnings from the National Weather Service (NWS). This pre-planning and communication with the NWS, Memphis Light, Gas and Water, and many other agencies helped us stay ahead of the storm. Preparation is the key to surviving! We so appreciate our citizens’ efforts to work with us by heeding the weather warnings and limiting travel on ice-covered roadways.”

#### Tennessee Severe Weather Awareness Week events are:

- Sunday, February 15, 2015: Honoring the **SKYWARN** volunteer weather spotters.
- Monday, February 16, 2015: The hazards of **major flooding** and **flash flooding**.
- Tuesday, February 17, 2015: The underrated killer...**lightning!**
- Wednesday, February 18, 2015: **Tornado** safety and preparedness. A state-wide tornado drill will include a test of the NOAA Weather Radio at 9:30 a.m.
- Thursday, February 19, 2015: **Severe thunderstorms** and their effects.
- Friday, February 20, 2015: **NOAA weather radio** and the **emergency alert system**.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness invites all citizens to learn more about severe weather and what to do to stay safe at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov). Free preparedness training information can be found by visiting [www.staysafeshelby.us](http://www.staysafeshelby.us).

End of Release