

Tornado

GENERAL PREPARATION

- Confirm insurance eligibility for tornado and wind coverage.
- Identify a safe room within the restaurant where customers and staff can shelter.
- Save back-ups of important documents, like insurance documentation, contracts, and tax returns, in an offsite location.
- Develop a Business Continuity Plan, including:
 - A procedure to restore electrical services.
 - A procedure to move supplies.
 - A procedure to communicate with staff and customers.
 - A procedure to evacuate and/or shelter staff and customers.
- Hold staff training on the Business Continuity Plan.
 - Conduct tornado drills with staff.
- Have a specialist inspect your roof to determine if it can withstand high winds.

BEFORE A TORNADO

- Check your Emergency Preparation Kit.
 - Is everything well stocked?
 - Is everything working?
 - Move tornado-related Kit items to the safe room.
- Inspect storm windows.
- Install shutters or hang plywood to protect windows and doors.
- Remove any branches, trees, or debris that could potentially damage the restaurant.
- Clean and store outdoor patio furniture (if applicable).
- Ensure exterior signs, flagpoles, and fences are secured.
- Ensure large interior furniture, like shelves and filing cabinets, are anchored to wall studs.
- Turn off all utilities before the tornado makes contact (if possible).
- Monitor weather alerts and be prepared to act quickly.

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DURING A TORNADO

- Follow your Business Continuity Plan.
- Evacuate all customers and staff to the safe room as soon as a Tornado Watch becomes a Tornado Warning.
- Remain in the safe room until the Tornado Warning expires.
- If the tornado causes a power outage, refer to that checklist for specific guidance.



AFTER A TORNADO

- Do not enter damaged buildings.
- If the restaurant is damaged, exit with extreme caution.
 - Watch for broken glass, exposed nails, and other debris.
 - Avoid paths that have significant damage.
 - Do not light matches or use lighters inside.
 - If anyone smells gas or feels faint, evacuate ASAP.
- If anyone is trapped, cover their mouth with a mask or piece of fabric.
- If anyone is injured, provide first aid as necessary.
- If anyone has a serious neck or back injury, do not move them. Seek immediate medical assistance.
- Wear long sleeves, work gloves, and thick-soled shoes to clean up.
- 86 Repairs customers should call or text for assistance with any damaged equipment or infrastructure.