

BUSY STORM SEASON AHEAD – WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU? (from the April 2011 issue of WaterISAC Water Security Network)

So far this spring, the United States has faced severe weather patterns, with increased flooding and an abnormally active spring tornado season. FEMA urges the public to follow these steps to stay safe before, during and after a storm:

- Follow the instructions of state and local officials;
- Listen to local radio or TV stations for updated emergency information;
- Make sure you have a safe place to go in case severe weather approaches;
- Familiarize yourself with severe weather watch/warning terms;
- Severe Thunderstorm Watch: tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for information.
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning: Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.
- Tornado Watch: tornadoes are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for information.
- Tornado Warning: A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.

For complete tips on getting prepared for a tornado, severe storm, or flooding, visit www.Ready.gov or FEMA's mobile website, www.m.fema.gov