



SEVERE WEATHER

THERE ARE 2 TYPES OF SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS:

WATCH: Public notification that weather conditions exist that could lead to a warning.

WARNING: An alert from the National Weather Service (NWS) confirming the occurrence of a severe weather event and the time, location, speed and direction of movement.

The most common watches and warnings are:

- ❖ **SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH** - conditions are developing which could lead to a severe thunderstorm.
- ❖ **SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING** - a storm is occurring which meets the severe storm criteria: torrential rain, high winds, frequent lighting, hail and the possibility of an isolated tornado.
- ❖ **TORNADO WATCH** - an area of the State is forecasted to have all the elements necessary to spawn tornadic thunderstorms.
- ❖ **TORNADO WARNING** - a notification that either a radar signature or “spotter” verification of a developing tornado or that a confirmed tornado is on-the-ground and causing damage. This warning is an immediate notification to

“TAKE-COVER”.



SEVERE WEATHER -cont'd

Members of the RC-ERT (Richland College - Emergency Response Team) will be kept apprised of developing weather conditions. As watches and warnings are issued, RC-ERT members, College Police Officers and the Office of Emergency Management will make appropriate announcements.

IF SEVERE WEATHER IS IMMINENT:

- ❖ The EOWS (Emergency Outdoor Warning System) will be activated, as well as, interior warning devices and notifications by RC-ERT, College Police or Office of Emergency Management personnel.
- ❖ **REMAIN CALM.** Do not exit the buildings!
- ❖ Notify persons in your immediate area to quickly move away from exterior glass doors and windows.
- ❖ Proceed to one of the marked “**SEVERE WEATHER AREA**” locations. If possible, and safe to do so, leave portable buildings and proceed to permanently constructed buildings.
- ❖ Remain in the “**SEVERE WEATHER AREA**” until the “All Clear” is given by RC-ERT, College Police, or Emergency Management personnel.