

10.3.22

SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY

BE WEATHER AWARE.

PURPOSE

Severe weather poses a high risk to jobsites. Consult with your Safety Manager for additional information as needed.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Project Supervision

It is the responsibility of the supervisor to monitor the weather. Supervisors should monitor any severe weather on their tablet. Apps can be downloaded to the supervisor's phone that assist with monitoring for severe weather alerts. All alerts should be taken seriously.

PROCEDURES

Best Practices

- The values of 5 miles and 30 minutes will be used as a guideline for when to suspend outdoor work when a storm is approaching.
- When lightning is detected within 5 miles of outdoor work activity and is moving in the direction of the work area, work shall be stopped and everyone will be directed to seek appropriate shelter. Work may resume as soon as it is deemed safe by the supervisor.

Sheltered Area

- Appropriate shelter should be a hard structure or building. If those are not present, shelter in a truck or trailer.
- The specific location of the protected areas will be identified by project supervision before work is begun.
- Trees, fabric sunshades/tents, and motorized equipment without a hard top do not offer adequate protection and should be avoided.

Planning

- Certain activities, such as crane work, pumping concrete, working in scissor and aerial lifts, using long-handled bull floats, etc., increase the likelihood of a lightning strike.
- When planning these activities, project supervision should include a plan for evacuation and protection for employee-owners in the event of a thunderstorm.