

Campus Safety Bulletin

March 2014

**IN THIS ISSUE:
BE A FORCE OF NATURE BY
PREPARING FOR SEVERE WEATHER**



**CAMPUS
EMERGENCIES
CALL "2911"
(336) 750-2911**

Each year North Carolina participates in the national Severe Weather Awareness Week (SWAW) to promote individual, family, and business preparedness. This year it will be held March 2 – 8 with a statewide tornado drill conducted on Wednesday, March 5th at 9:30 a.m. As we enter the prime season for tornados and hurricanes you can be a force of nature by staying informed of the types of severe weather that can impact our campus and taking appropriate measures to be prepared.

Know Your Risk

Severe weather events like hurricanes, tornadoes, snowstorms, flooding, and even droughts can impact the WSSU campus. The first step to becoming a force of nature is to understand the types of hazardous weather that can affect you on campus, and how weather can impact you and your family off campus. You should:

- Monitor the National Weather Service website (www.weather.gov) to get the latest forecast information.
- Assess your current level of preparedness for each type of severe weather event that can impact you on campus.
 - Ask yourself: "What can happen, how will I be informed of its occurrence, how should I respond, and what can I do to reduce its impact on me?"
- Register for RamALERTs (www.wssu.edu/ramalert) so you receive timely warnings of imminent severe weather on campus.

Develop a Plan

Preparing for severe weather doesn't have to be complicated or expensive. Taking a few basic steps, such as having an emergency supply kit and a NOAA weather radio, could mean the difference in saving your life. So, the second step to becoming a force of nature is to develop an emergency plan.

- Your plan should address:
 - Evacuation and sheltering-in-place procedures
 - A communications plan for your family
- Include a non-local contact
- Along with developing a plan, you should build an emergency supply kit for your residence and automobile. Include in it a 3-day supply of non-perishable food and water, a battery operated radio, a 1st aid kit, a flashlight, a whistle, and duct tape, among other items.

Be an Example – Get Involved

I believe one of the most powerful forces of human nature is positive influence. In keeping with our "See Something; Say Something" campaign, each of us can be an influential example in this campus community by joining the effort to promote individual preparedness and community safety. As a proud student, faculty, staff, or alumni of this great institution, you are encouraged to do your part in our collective effort to preserve campus safety.

- Participate in campus events that promote safety and preparedness.
- Report any observed hazards to the appropriate authorities.
- Share your ideas on how we can make the campus environment safer and more prepared.
- Be an advocate for our public safety preparedness message.
- Demonstrate safe practices while carrying out your affairs on campus.

For additional information about SWAW 2014 www.weather.gov/rah/2014ncswaw