

W. Severe Weather Plan

The City of Salina and Saline County Emergency Management require a Severe Weather Plan for events with 250 attendees or less. Severe Weather Plan details are included in the Emergency Management Plan for events with 251 or more attendees.

The following information must be provided in the Special Events Permit Application:

- event date,
- event times, and
- Designated Weather Monitor (DWM) contact.

Saline County Emergency Management will work with the National Weather Service to develop a weather matrix for the operational period of your event to establish the Severe Weather Plan.

We recommend the DWM carry a battery-operated weather radio and/or track the National Weather Service website during the event.

Severe Weather Watch means there are high probabilities of severe weather. When there's a watch, the DWM will inform and update attendees. Your event can continue as weather conditions permit.

Severe Weather Warning is issued by the National Weather Service to indicate severe weather has developed. When this happens, there's little time for action. A siren will sound only for tornado warnings, not severe thunderstorm warnings. Follow these steps when a warning is issued:

- The event organizer or DWM immediately makes an announcement instructing attendees where to seek shelter.
- Event staff and vendors shut down and turn off any gas or electric components.
- Staff, vendors, attendees, and participants will seek shelter.
- If there's lightning but no warning, you'll still need to seek shelter. Lightning, even during non-severe storms, is still dangerous.

After the severe weather passes, the National Weather Service lifts the warning. At this point, you may continue with your event. However, if there's severe damage or your event cannot otherwise continue, you may be required to cancel your event. Please notify the City of Salina in writing before you cancel. Written notification is required and best done through email to the designated City contact listed on the application materials.

NOTE: We recommend that you have a backup plan in case of uncooperative weather or other reasons that might require you to reschedule. The City of Salina does not grant refunds for cancellation or changes made to your event due to severe weather.

Please contact Saline County Emergency Management at (785) 826-6511 with questions about the Severe Weather Plan requirements.