

SEVERE WEATHER

Description

When severe weather conditions become apparent, the U.S. Weather Bureau describes conditions by two classifications:

- A **Watch** means weather conditions are favorable for the development of hazardous weather.
- A **Warning** means hazardous weather is happening or is imminent.

Immediate Action

- Move away from outside windows. If the windows in your offices are supplied with blinds, close the blinds (this will provide protection from broken glass).
- Do not panic.
- If evacuated, lock all desk drawers and take all items of value with you.
- If evacuated, use a route that is in the building interior and stay away from large expanses of glass and windows.
- Use the stairwells rather than the elevators.
- If evacuated, do not return to your office until advised to do so.
- Look at the Operations Status Board at <http://statusboard.uvaemergency.virginia.edu> for the latest information on schedule changes or call the closings and delays telephone lines (434-924-7669 or 434-243-7669).

Decision

University Operations

As a general practice, the University makes every effort to maintain its normal schedule of operation. However, the University may decide to alter the start or close of the working day under extreme emergency conditions; only the President or the EVP/COO has this authority. Special programs that involve travel away from the University (field trips, evening classes, or other activities) may be canceled by the responsible dean if, in the dean's judgment, extreme weather conditions require it.

The University will announce full and partial shift modifications through various media sources. The Office of University Communications will provide announcements to local television and radio stations to cover all day, evening, night, and weekend University work schedules. Standardized messages covering employees of both the University and the Medical Center will be broadcast.

Subsequent Procedures/Information

- Listen to weather-alert radios to stay informed of real-time traffic information, latest road reports, or listing of closed roads during a major winter weather event.
- Also monitor commercial radio, television and the Internet.