



Employee Relations Committee

Tornado Season Awareness
March–May 2026

Preparedness • Response • Safety Reminders

⚠ ERC Weather Alert

Your Employee Relations Committee is actively monitoring severe weather conditions throughout tornado season. ERC members remain weather-aware and will immediately sound alarms to ensure Scottsboro employees can reach shelter safely. Trust that we are vigilant—your safety is our priority.

Tornado Season: The Basics

Tornadoes can form quickly in our region. March–May brings peak tornado season to the Southeast. Knowing where to go, how you'll receive alerts, and what to do when time is short can make all the difference.

Understand: Watch vs. Warning

Tornado Watch

Conditions are favorable. Stay alert and monitor local forecasts closely.

Tornado Warning

A tornado has been sighted or indicated by radar. Take shelter immediately.

Be Ready: Before Storms Hit

- Know your safest place at work (interior room, lowest level, away from windows) and at home.
- Enable phone alerts (Wireless Emergency Alerts) and monitor local weather forecasts regularly.
- Keep sturdy shoes nearby—debris is a common source of injury after tornadoes.
- Identify an out-of-area contact for family check-ins if local lines become congested.
- If you drive for work, keep a small car kit: flashlight, phone charger, and bottled water.

Emergency Kit Essentials

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water + shelf-stable snacks• Flashlight + extra batteries• Basic first-aid supplies | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portable phone charger• Copies of key contacts and medication list |
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When a Warning is Issued

- Move to your designated shelter area or an interior room on the lowest floor immediately.
- Stay away from windows, exterior doors, and large open rooms.
- Protect your head and neck using your arms; grab a jacket or cushion if available.
- Wait for the official all-clear before leaving shelter.

After the Storm

- Watch for downed power lines and unstable structures.
- Check in with your supervisor and follow site instructions.
- Report hazards immediately so they can be secured by facilities.

Box Cutter Safety

Box cutters are essential tools—and they demand respect. Most injuries come from rushing, using dull blades, or cutting toward the body. Build these habits into every use.

Safe Habits Every Time

- **Use the right tool:** Choose a safety cutter when available; do not improvise with knives or scissors.
- **Inspect the blade:** Replace dull or nicked blades. Dull blades require more force, causing slips.
- **Cut away from yourself:** Keep your free hand out of the cut path.
- **Use stable footing:** Work on a clear surface; never cut in your lap or while walking.
- **Retract immediately:** Cover or retract the blade the moment you finish the cut.
- **Dispose properly:** Place blades only in an approved sharps container—never in regular trash.

If a Cut Happens

Stop work immediately, wash the area with soap and water, apply pressure with a clean cloth, and notify your supervisor. Seek first aid for any deep cut, uncontrolled bleeding, or signs of infection.

Plan ahead. Stay alert. Look out for each other.

Questions? Contact your Employee Relations Committee.