



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Russ Dubisky

Phone: 919-539-1375

Email: russ@insurancefederationnc.com

Spring storms

Raleigh, N.C. – March 15, 2016 – With spring around the corner, the Carolinas are entering a time of year where potentially severe weather becomes more common. Systems can bring strong wind gusts, hail, tornadoes, and flash flooding – all of which can cause significant damage to your property.

“It’s now the time of year where thunderstorms can become more frequent and intense,” said Russ Dubisky, media relations representative for the Insurance Federation of North Carolina (IFNC). “People should pay attention to local weather reports and know how to help protect their homes and families.”

The IFNC reminds you of these important tips:

General safety and loss prevention tips:

- Prepare the exterior of your home and yard. Nail any loose shingles or boards, and cover windows with plywood or storm shutters. Cut weak limbs and those overhanging a structure and remove yard debris, and make sure gutters and down spouts are clear.
- If a tornado/ severe storm watch has been issued, move cars inside a garage or carport to avoid damage from hail, which often accompanies tornadoes. Keep your car keys and house keys with you at all times.
- Bring lawn furniture, potted plants, garbage cans, grills and outdoor decorative items into the garage. They could be damaged or act as dangerous projectiles causing serious injury or damage.
- Keep your family safe inside and if a tornado threatens, move to a room without windows in the center part of your home.

If you experience damage from wind or hail, contact your insurance company or agent as soon as possible.

For car, home, or business owners who have damage from the storm, here are some tips for filing an insurance claim:

- Survey the damage and notify your insurance agent or company of any losses and leave contact information if you are not at home.

- Make any temporary repairs necessary to protect property from further damage. Keep all receipts for material used, and do not dispose of damaged personal property until an adjuster has had the opportunity to look at it.
- Photographs or video documentation of damaged property may be helpful.
- Find your insurance policy and have your policy number handy when you are ready to make your claim.

For more information from the Insurance Federation of North Carolina, or to schedule an interview, call (919)539-1375.