

# CALAMITY JANE EXPRESS (R)

## Emergency Checklist

at [www.calamityjaneexpress.net](http://www.calamityjaneexpress.net)

### Standard Messages

## Thunderstorms 1/2

### Watch, Warning

A **Severe Thunderstorm WATCH** means severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. People in a watch area should keep informed and be ready to act if a severe thunderstorm warning is issued.

A **Severe thunderstorm WARNING** means severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property

### Protect Yourself

- **Determine your risk.**
- **Prepare members of your household.**
- **Pick a safe place.**

### You should:

- Discuss thunderstorm safety with members of your household.
- Pick a safe place in your home for household members to gather during a thunderstorm.
- Learn about your community's warning system for severe thunderstorms.
- Learn how to crouch low to the ground on the balls of your feet.

### Protect Your Property

- **Actively prepare your home.**
- **Check your insurance coverage.**

### You should:

- Make a list of items to bring inside in the event of a severe thunderstorm.
- Keep trees and shrubbery trimmed.
- Remove any debris or loose items from around your home and outbuildings and from pastures.
- Protect your animals.
- Consider installing permanent shutters to cover windows.
- Install lightning rods on your home and on barns or any other building that house animals. .
- Insure crops against financial loss from storm damage through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### Before a Severe Thunderstorm

- **Stay informed.**
- **Prepare to shelter.**

### You should:

- Use a NOAA Weather Radio to keep you informed of watches and warnings issued in your area.
- If planning a trip or extended period of time outdoors, be aware of the weather forecast.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.
- Keep an eye on the sky.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Listen for the sound of thunder.
- Even if there is no official thunderstorm warning, if you see signs of a thunderstorm, take precautions.

### During a Severe Thunderstorm watch

- **Keep informed.**
- **Prepare to shelter.**
- **Avoid lightning attractors.**

### You should:

- Use a NOAA Weather Radio or listen to a local radio or television station.
- Avoid natural lightning rods, such as golf clubs, fishing poles, tractors, bicycles, and camping equipment.
- Be prepared to take shelter.

### If you perceive that a severe thunderstorm is approaching:

- Secure outdoor objects such as lawn furniture that could blow away or cause damage or injury.
- Bring your companion animals indoors and maintain direct control of them.
- If possible, bring horses and livestock into your barn.
- Shutter windows and close outside doors securely.
- Avoid electrical equipment and telephones.
- Avoid bathtubs, water faucets, and sinks because metal pipes can transmit electricity.

### During a Severe Thunderstorm Warning

- **Stay informed.**
- **Go to shelter.**
- **Avoid lightning attractors.**

### You should:

- Use a NOAA Weather Radio or listen to a local station on a battery-powered radio or television for updated emergency information.
- Draw the blinds and shades over windows.
- Unplug appliances
- Avoid taking a bath or shower, or running water for any other purpose.
- Turn off the air conditioner.
- Maintain direct control of your animals.

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