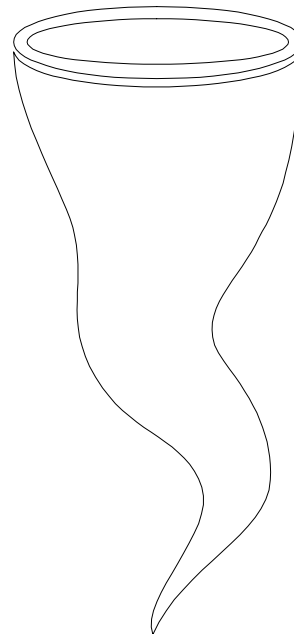




## Introduction — Tornadoes

Classic movies, such as *The Wizard of Oz*, and the recent thriller *Twister* brought tornadoes into America's living rooms and created a surge in popular interest. A tornado is a violent windstorm characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud. These naturally occurring phenomena can form as spin-offs of a hurricane or accompany a thunderstorm. Many tornadoes never touch ground or do not affect populated areas, although they can cause significant property damage in a short time.

The purpose of Chapter 10 is to discuss tornadoes and provide safety tips and community planning strategies.



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