

Spring Storms in North Texas

by Dan Haase, Associate Director of Facilities

Texas weather truly is unique. It may be best described as a series of extremes. As just one example of this, the temperature in the Dallas/Fort Worth area has been recorded as high as 113°F, and as low as 8°F below zero! Even long-time residents are often surprised at the variety of weather phenomena, and even the occasional violent nature of the weather. The purpose of this article is to address some likely spring weather events you may experience and how they may affect your living situation.

Spring storms

Spring storms are fairly common and can be destructive in north Texas. They can often cap off an otherwise calm spring day and generally move west to east. Our most likely severe weather occurs between April 1st and June 15th, and is likely to be most severe between 3 PM and 8 PM. Severe weather can include wind damage, flooding, and some of the largest hail you will ever see. Tarrant and Dallas counties are often cited as the hail capital of the United States, and we have truly earned that title.

How will this affect you?

With any type of bad weather, the most likely way you will be affected is a power loss. This can happen due to broken tree limbs, caused by wind damage or the weight of ice on trees.

If you find yourself faced with a power outage, DO NOT call the seminary unless we provide power to you as part of your monthly rent. Contact the electric company that bills you for electricity to report the problem—as soon as possible. DO NOT assume the seminary can take care of this for you--there is a far greater chance of your power being restored through the simple action of your calling in the outage than anything the seminary might be able to do on your behalf. The restoration of power can take days (maybe even a week), so you should plan for this as best you can.



In a hail storm, you may very likely have damage to your car. If you have comprehensive coverage, you are covered. If your car is old enough that getting this kind of coverage is a toss-up, remember to factor in the high probability of hail in this area.

Lightning has occasionally struck an apartment building on our campus. While the seminary is responsible for the structure, *your belongings are not covered unless you have renter's insurance.* We strongly urge you to consider this very inexpensive insurance.

Severe weather may also affect whether the campus is open for class. Monitor our web site and main telephone greeting for the latest information.

hail \ˈhā(ə)l [hey1] -*noun* 1 : showery precipitation in the form of irregular pellets or balls of ice more than $\frac{1}{5}$ in. (5 mm) in diameter, falling from a cumulonimbus cloud (distinguished from SLEET). 2 : small balls consisting of concentric layers clear ice and compact snow.

Maintenance Requests ♦ 817-923-1921, ext. 2290

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week | Maintenance Repairs | Pest Control and Rodent Control | There is someone ready to answer your call!

Who is Facilities Maintenance?

The Facilities Maintenance department (which includes Landscaping) serves the campus community by providing safe and welcoming surroundings conducive to living and learning. Our goal is to maintain our housing properties efficiently through careful stewardship of our resources. As a result, we are able to provide a well maintained home for our students to live in while keeping rent costs as low as possible. To accomplish this task, we need your help in reporting anything that need repairs inside and outside of your home. Working together, we can keep our housing communities a great place to live.