



Inclement Weather Protocol - All Programs

Last Updated: April 16, 2024

Please note that this protocol is written to act as a guide, and there is the potential for situations that go beyond what it contains. **All staff members must use their best judgment to determine what the safest course of action is with the information they have.** Eye Thrive Site Lead refers to the Eye Thrive staff member who is the main on-site point of contact for the site contact on the day of the visit. Visits refers to both Mobile Vision Clinic (MVC), School Screenings, PreVisits, and PostVisits.

Thunderstorms

- During a thunderstorm, Eye Thrive staff should use their best judgment to determine the safest course of action for patients and staff.
 - Eye Thrive Site Lead will continuously monitor weather conditions.
- If a Severe Storm Warning is issued in the area where services will be delivered or for the area where headquarters is located:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the MVC and/or staff's departure will be delayed until the alert has ended.
 - While on-site services are being delivered, Eye Thrive staff and patients will immediately take shelter in the nearest available building until the alert has ended.
 - If on the MVC:
 - Support staff:
 - Communicate with nurse and ask where to take students inside.
 - Evacuate students from MVC.
 - Pretest staff:
 - If time, store Front Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Bring in the slide.
 - Evacuate MVC.
 - Lab staff:
 - If time, store Back Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Turn off the generator.
 - Evacuate MVC.
- Wait for confirmation the threat has passed to resume standard operations.
- *Recommended website to monitor weather conditions: [The Weather Channel](#)*

Hailstorms

- During a hailstorm, Eye Thrive staff should use their best judgment to determine the safest course of action for patients and staff.
 - Eye Thrive Site Lead will continuously monitor weather conditions.
- If it begins to hail in the area where services will be delivered or for the area where headquarters is located:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the MVC and/or staff's departure will be delayed until the alert has ended.
 - While on-site services are being delivered, Eye Thrive staff and patients will immediately shelter in place.
 - If on the MVC:
 - Support staff:
 - Communicate with nurse and inform we are pausing on shuttling patients on/off MVC.
 - Pretest staff:
 - Move patients away from windows.
 - Shelter in Front Exam room and overflow into Back Exam.
 - Lab staff:
 - Move patients away from windows.
 - Shelter in Back Exam room.
- Wait for confirmation the threat has passed to resume standard procedure.

Flash Flood Warning

- If a Flash Flood Warning is issued for the area where services will be delivered or for the area where headquarters is located:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the MVC and/or staff departure will be delayed until the alert has ended.
 - While on-site services are being delivered, if the area is in a drainage area or a low spot, Eye Thrive staff and patients will immediately move to higher ground until the warning is over.
 - If on the MVC:
 - Support staff:
 - Communicate with nurse and ask where to take students inside.
 - Evacuate students from MVC.
 - Pretest staff:

- If time, store Front Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Bring in the slide.
 - Evacuate MVC.
- Lab staff:
 - If time, store Back Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Turn off the generator.
 - Evacuate MVC.
- Wait for confirmation the threat has passed to resume standard procedure.
- *Recommended website to monitor weather conditions: [The Weather Channel](#)*
- *Source: [National Weather Service](#)*

Tornados

- If a Tornado Watch is issued in the area where services will be delivered or for the area where headquarters is located:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the MVC and/or staff will depart to site as normal if determined to be safe by Eye Thrive staff.
 - While on-site services are being delivered, Eye Thrive Site Lead will continue to monitor weather conditions.
- If a Tornado Warning is issued in the area where services will be delivered or for the area where headquarters is located:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the MVC and/or staff's departure will be delayed until the alert has ended.
 - While on-site services are being delivered, Eye Thrive staff and patients will immediately take shelter in the nearest available building until the alert has ended.
 - If on the MVC:
 - Support staff:
 - Communicate with nurse and ask where to take students inside.
 - Evacuate students from MVC.
 - Pretest staff:
 - If time, store Front Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Bring in the slide.
 - Evacuate MVC.
 - Lab staff:
 - If time, store Back Exam equipment (phoropter and slit lamp). Turn off the generator.

- Evacuate MVC.
- Wait for confirmation the threat has passed to resume standard operations.
- *Recommended website to monitor weather conditions:* [The Weather Channel](#)
- *Source:* [National Weather Service](#)

Snow/Ice

- If snow and/or ice have caused road conditions to be unsafe as determined by [MoDOT](#) or [IDOT's](#) website:
 - Before the MVC and/or staff has departed, the visit will be cancelled.
 - While onsite services are being delivered, the visit will end early and the MVC will return to headquarters and Eye Thrive staff will leave the site.
 - This includes if snow and/or ice begins to fall heavily and road conditions are in danger of becoming unsafe.
 - At MVC Visits: The MVC driver and Programs Director will monitor conditions throughout the day.
 - At Screenings, Previsits, Postvisits: The Program Specialist and Programs Director will monitor conditions throughout the day.
- If a site's parking lot has not been plowed, the MVC visit will be cancelled.
- *Recommended website to monitor weather conditions:* [The Weather Channel](#)