



Western  
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

# Welcome

Safety is a shared responsibility!



# Building and Maintaining an Effective Building Emergency Team

- Understand your role as a BET
- Severe Weather – What's new & What to do
- Review past scenarios at Western and elsewhere
- Legislative requirements and how it affects you
- Questions & Answers

# Why do we need Emergency Team Members

- Generally, safety is taken for granted in our work environment; the presence of fire extinguishers, hoses, fire detectors, alarm bells, and pull stations can make people **complacent** about the possibility of fire or other emergency
- However, emergencies DO occur, and often there are only moments to decide what to do... deadly smoke or fumes can quickly spread to cut off escape routes
- Emergency Team Members make a significant contribution to the safety of their environment, and provide direction to building occupants in the event of a fire or other emergency

# Legislative Requirements

- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (A.O.D.A.)
- Ontario Fire Code

# A.O.D.A. - Workplace emergency response information 27.

- Every employer shall provide *individualized* workplace emergency response information to employees who have a disability, if the disability is such that the individualized information is necessary and the employer is aware of the need for accommodation due to the employee's disability.
- Every employer shall meet the requirements of this section by January 1, 2012.

# Ontario Fire Code – 2.8.2

- *Measures in a fire safety plan*
- 2.8.2.1. (1) A fire safety plan shall include
  - (a) the emergency procedures to be used in case of fire, including
    - (i) sounding the fire alarm,
    - (ii) notifying the fire department,
    - (iii) instructing occupants on procedures to be followed when the fire alarm sounds,
    - (iv) **evacuating occupants, including special provisions for persons requiring assistance,**
    - (v) the procedures for use of elevators, and
    - (vi) confining, controlling and extinguishing the fire,
  - (b) the appointment and organization of designated supervisory staff to carry out fire safety duties,
  - (c) the training of supervisory staff and instruction of other occupants in their responsibilities for fire safety,
  - (d) documents, including diagrams, showing the type, location and operation of the building fire emergency systems.
  - (e) the holding of fire drills,
  - (f) the control of fire hazards in the building,
  - (g) the maintenance of building facilities provided for the safety of occupants, and
  - (h) the provision of alternative measures for the safety of occupants during any shutdown of fire protection equipment and systems or part thereof.

# Building Emergency Team Responsibilities

- Building Emergency Team coordinate a prompt and organized evacuation of all building occupants in the event of an emergency. If members are in their designated area, they are to begin a sweep of the area and encourage everyone to exit and meet at the designated rally point. If members are not in their area, or they cannot get to their area, they are not to go back to do a sweep. Instead, members are to leave via the nearest exit and report this information to an official outside.
- Don your Building Emergency Team vest.
- Take your keys, coat, and any important information with you.
- Search your floor only if you can do so safely.
- Members should encourage all occupants to close windows and doors to their area, and evacuate the building.
- As they are leaving, they are to tell people that they should be evacuating.
- If members know of persons who did not evacuate, they are to notify the Building Emergency Coordinator or emergency personnel where these individuals are located.
- If members see signs of smoke and/or fire, or any other emergency situation, they are to react accordingly and report this information to their Building Emergency Coordinator and/or emergency personnel.
- If you feel confident in the operation of a fire extinguisher, and you feel it is safe to do so, first ensure the building fire alarm is activated, and then try to extinguish the fire. If you do not, evacuate the fire area.



# Building Emergency Coordinator Responsibilities

- The Building Emergency Team is coordinated by the **Building Emergency Coordinator (BEC)**. The Building Emergency Coordinator has the task of recruiting and maintaining a group of people who will act as a member of their Building Emergency Team. During an Emergency evacuation, the BEC will proceed to a designated meeting place to await the arrival of the responding Emergency Services. The BEC will liaise with other Building Emergency Team Members to determine any pertinent information about the emergency which may include; areas of the building which have been searched, locations of people in the building, cause of the alarm, cause of the fire, signs of smoke or fire, or any other information which they deem pertinent for crews responding from any Emergency Response Agency. They will relay this information to the incoming agencies and act as a liaison with these agencies. An additional duty of the BEC is to inform other team members, upon the instructions from the Incident Commander be it Police, Fire or Other, that the building can be re-occupied. In the case that it is not possible to re-occupy the building, it is the duty of the BEC to relay to other team members that they will be required to move to the pre-determined temporary shelter building.
- All Building Emergency Team members and Building Emergency Coordinators are issued vests which are to be donned in the event of an emergency. These vests assist responding Emergency Agencies as well as building occupants in identifying their designation as Building Emergency Team members.

# What's New?



# Severe Weather



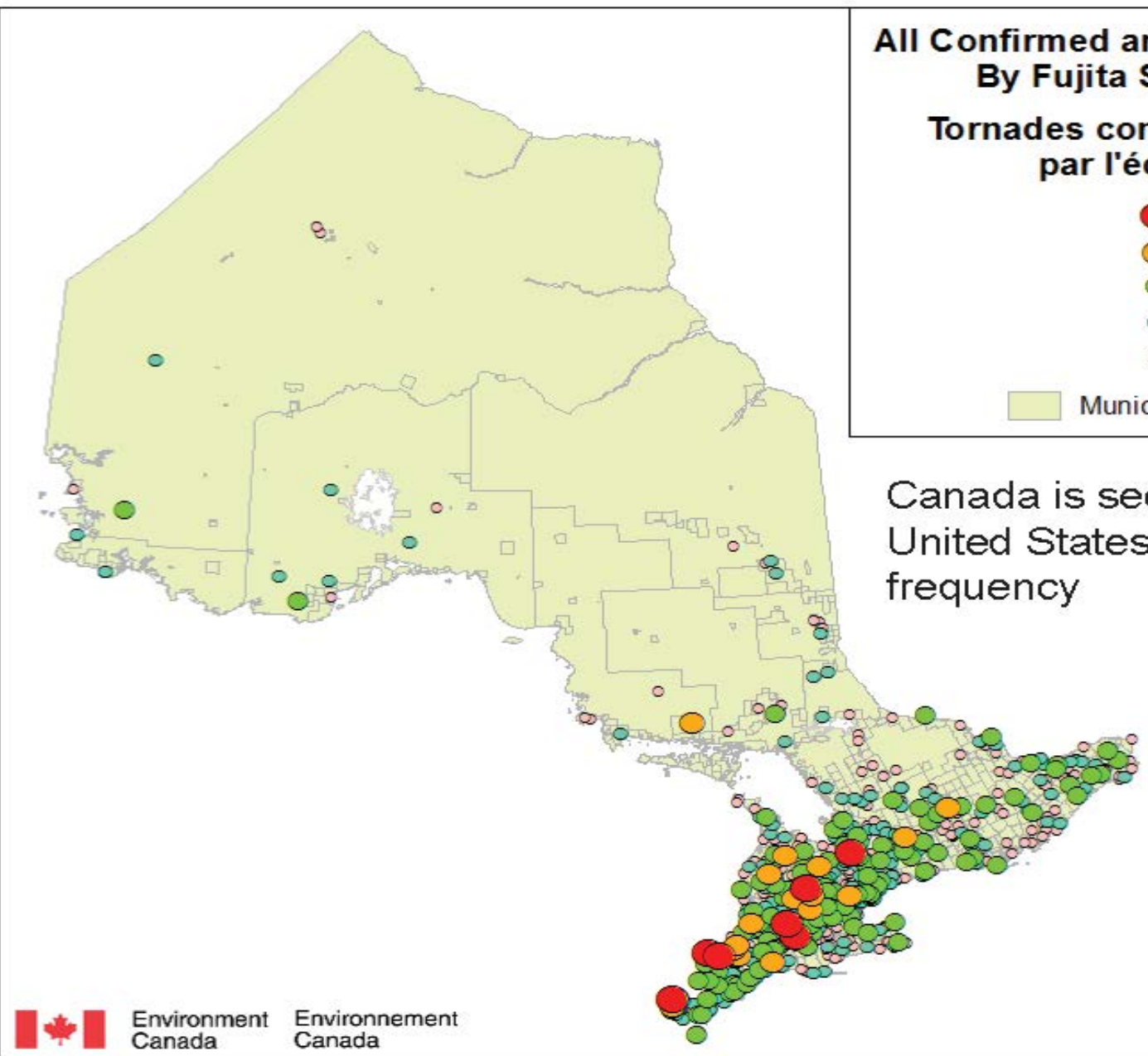
# All Confirmed and Probable Tornadoes By Fujita Scale (1918-2004)

## Tornades confirmées et probables par l'échelle de Fujita

- F4 (7)
- F3 (18)
- F2 (126)
- F1 (209)
- F0 (314)

Municipalities/Municipalités

Canada is second only to the  
United States in tornado  
frequency





# ANGUS ONTARIO JUNE 2014

EF2  
TORNADO



# University of Maryland – August 2011



# University of Maryland – August 2011



# University of Maryland – August 2011





# Severe Weather Messaging

*(Initiated only for tornado warnings)*

- Outdoor notification speaker array – on continuously during warning
- Mass notification using fire alarm speaker systems where available (presently 60% of campus)
- **BET email**
- Visix television signs
- Social Media
- Website



# Severe Weather Advisories

- Weather Advisory
  - An actual or expected weather condition may cause general inconvenience or concern, but will not pose a threat
- Weather Watch
  - Is an alert that conditions are favourable for the development of severe weather
- **Weather Warning**
  - **Means severe weather is occurring and that hazardous weather is highly probable**

# What should you do?

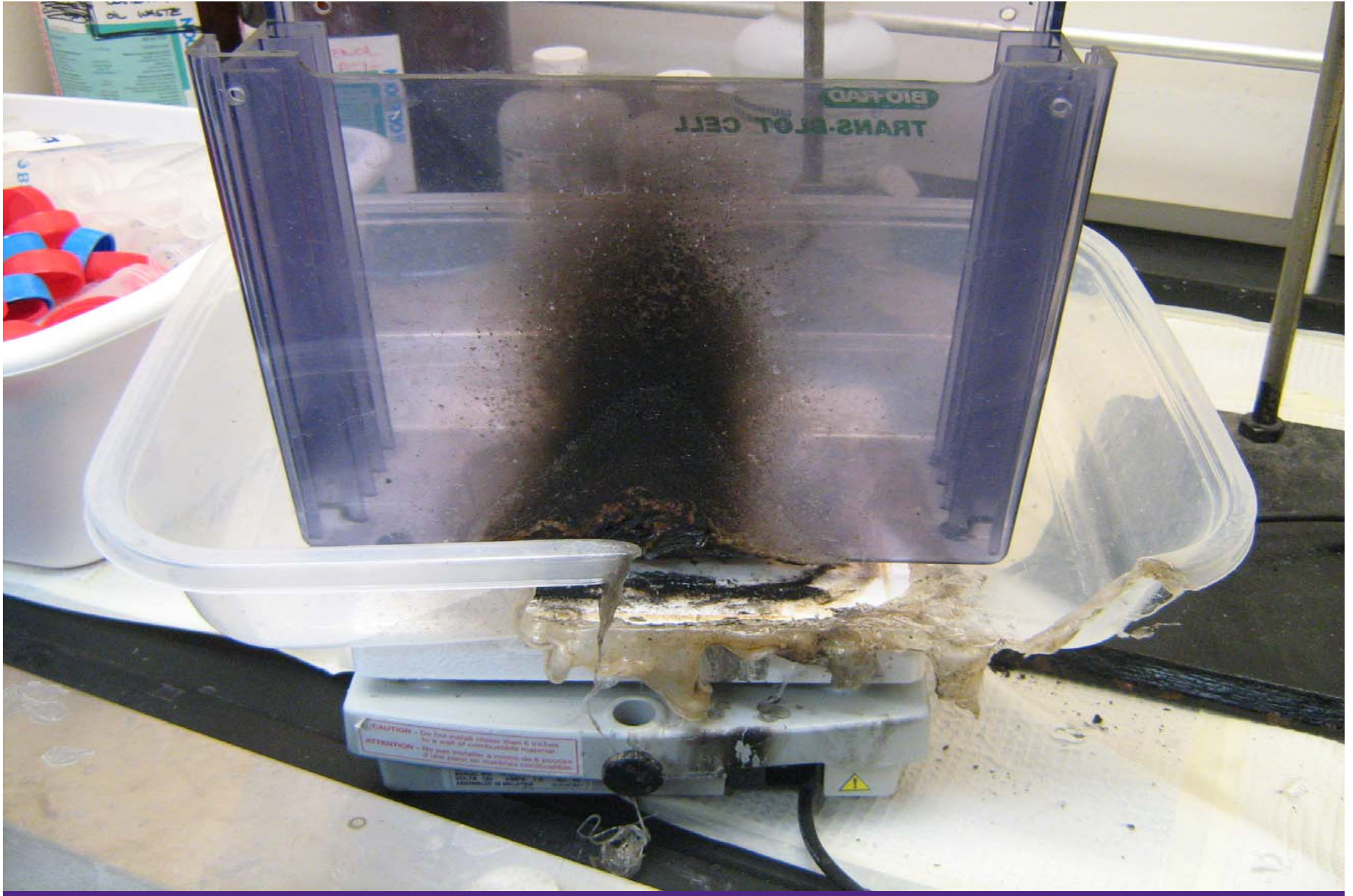
- Inform building occupants of the tornado warning
- Recommend that they move away from outside facing windows and doors
- Seek shelter in interior stairwells, corridors, classrooms, offices, washrooms and other structurally sound rooms

The reality is that

**FIRES** do occur.....

























# General Safety

Where's the pull station?

Why is it necessary?

# Shelter in Place

- Find a safe area such as an office, classroom, bedroom, suite or stairwell
- Call 911 and provide details
  - a) Your location – Building & Room number
  - b) You're unable to evacuate
  - c) Do you smell smoke, are you immediate danger
- Have BET's assist whenever possible
- Inform persons with disabilities of these options



# “Safe Area” for Persons with Disabilities:

## “Safe Area” for Persons with Disabilities:

- Persons with a physical disability are in many cases limited in their ability to evacuate by means of stairwells. It is primarily for this type of disability that the following procedures apply.
- Procedure When an Alarm Sounds

### Ground Level

- If you can evacuate the building at ground level, a Building Emergency Team member (BET) or a volunteer should escort you to a safe location away from the building.

### Above or below the ground floor

- Seek a safe area with or without the assistance of a BET.
- When there is a fire alarm, if possible, phone Campus Police at 911 to inform them of your location, circumstance and intentions.
- Tell the communication officer that your fire alarm is sounding but you have a disability and cannot leave your floor area. If you smell smoke, or are in immediate danger, immediately inform the communications officer.
- The Building Emergency Team (BET) has been instructed to ask and help you to identify the location where you will wait for evacuation. They are not trained to lift and carry you out of the building. Please ask someone to remain in the building with you until trained rescue workers arrive from the fire department. Make sure someone both from the evacuation team or a volunteer has noted your location, floor and the stairwell and, that this person will notify the authorities of your need for assistance.
- Provide the phone number and extension you are calling from. It is IMPERATIVE that this number can receive return calls. Note that PAY telephones generally **cannot** receive incoming calls.
- Campus Police have radio contact with officers at the scene and will provide you with updates on the situation via the phone number you provide. In the event that your safety could be compromised, Firefighters will assist in your safe evacuation. At any time, you can also call back for an update.

# As part of the Fire Safety Family .....

- Please contact us if you have fire safety related concerns
- Call or email *[firesafety@uwo.ca](mailto:firesafety@uwo.ca)*
- All contact information is kept confidential















Fire Safety Plans are available on line at <http://www.fire.uwo.ca/>. Click on Building Fire Safety Plans in the left margin and supply your username and password to gain access.

*The University of  
Fire Safety & Emergency Management*



Fire Burn 2010

**Resources**

- Fire Safety Procedures
- Disaster Plan
- Pandemic Plan
- Building Fire Safety Plans
- Policies & Procedures

**News & Updates**

**Residence Fire Warden Training**

September 29, 2010 - During the month of September Fire Safety provided fire prevention and evacuation training to over 300 residence occupants, including the residence managers. We would like to thank everyone that participated including all those who volunteered to become Fire Wardens in their residence buildings. Your commitment to the general safety of your fellow students is commendable and will add significantly to the res life experience. Once again on behalf of Western and Fire Safety, many thanks and have a great year!

# Contacting Fire Safety:

- Non Emergencies -  
[FIRESAFETY@UWO.CA](mailto:FIRESAFETY@UWO.CA)
- Emergencies – 911
- THANK YOU

# Whelen WPS-2808 Tornado Siren Test

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8J3AVucOV0E>

