

# What's the Risk?

## Tornadoes and High Winds



### THE ISSUE

According to environment Canada, every year, on average, 80 tornadoes hit Canada. While most of them are labeled as F0 or F1 on the Fujita scale, these lower rated tornadoes (which are considered weak) still create powerful winds and hail that can cause extensive damage.



### WHAT'S THE RISK?

Even a weak tornado has the potential to cause significant property damage. Roofs can be torn off, trees can be uprooted, and cars can be overturned. The danger extends to homes and buildings, as they can suffer damage from flying debris, falling branches, or toppling trees.



### WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Use the following tips to help minimize property damage from tornadoes:

- Protect windows with permanent storm shutters
- Ensure all exterior doors have a minimum of three hinges for additional strength
- Ensure double doors have:
  - Permanent wood stiffeners installed
  - Longer screws at the hinges
  - Heavy-duty dead bolts or slide bolts at the top and bottom
- Build sheds and other small buildings with permanent foundations or secure them with straps and ground anchors
- Plant trees at least 10 meters (30 feet) from your house
- Ensure your garage door is closed at all times to prevent wind from entering which can cause uplift of the garage roof

