

# Storm Shelters and Safe Rooms

The devastating tornadoes that have hit Missouri in recent years have caused many Missourians to take a closer look at their vulnerability to nature's wrath and to make better preparations for surviving future storms.

Having a shelter or a safe room built into or near the home can help protect your family from injury or death caused by the dangerous forces of extreme winds.

## *Missouri is a high-risk state for high wind and tornadoes*

All of Missouri is in Wind Zone IV, meaning wind gusts from severe storms can exceed 250 mph. The number of recorded tornadoes is 5 to 15 per 2,470 square miles for much of the state. Combined, these factors place the entire state at a high-risk level that warrants a shelter as the preferred method of protection.

## *Basic features of a shelter or safe room*

In selecting a shelter or safe room, consider the following three factors.

- **Durability** — Is it strong enough that the walls, roof and door will withstand 250-mph winds and resist penetration by 100-mph wind-borne flying debris? Is it well-anchored to resist overturning and uplift? Does it have three dead-bolt locks, or the equivalent, on the access door?
- **Proximity** — Is it close to or inside your residence or place of work so you can quickly get to it? It should be readily accessible from all parts of the dwelling. Do you want it in-ground or above-ground? If in-ground, will soils and drainage accommodate it and be in a flood-free area?
- **Accessibility** — Can you easily get into and out of it? Does it need to be wheelchair accessible? Does the door open outward or inward? Your shelter or safe room should be free of clutter.

You will need to decide between reinforced concrete, fabricated steel, Kevlar, or plywood and sheet steel. Commonly used house construction techniques are based on minimum building codes and generally don't provide adequate protection. Most Missouri counties do not have even these minimum building codes.

## *Resources for planning and building a shelter or safe room*

To help homeowners and builders design and build shelters that withstand extreme wind speeds, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has a 46-page booklet titled FEMA 320, *Taking Shelter From the Storm: Building a Safe Room For Your Home or Small Business*, which includes 18 pages of construction plans and cost estimates. You can get a free copy by:

- calling FEMA, toll-free, 800-480-2520, or
- visiting their website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/saferoom/fema320.shtm>

Whether you build a shelter or not, you can take these important steps to protect your family.

1. Prepare an **emergency plan** for dealing with disaster situations.
2. Put together an **emergency supply kit** for home, business and each vehicle.

## *More resources and information*

- Pages 2 through 4 of this guide list storm shelter and safe room manufacturers serving Missouri. It is not intended to be a complete list of manufacturers, and University of Missouri Extension does not imply endorsement by listing a firm.
- Texas Tech University's Wind Science and Engineering Research Center offers information on protection from extreme wind. The website also has information on building an in-home shelter or safe room: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/weweb/Shelters/Shelters.php>
- The FEMA website has extensive information on safe rooms and shelters: <http://www.fema.gov/safe-room-resources>
- More information on emergency preparedness and disaster recovery is available at the MU Extension website: <http://extension.missouri.edu/emergencymanagement.htm>

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# Partial List of Storm Shelter and Safe Room Manufacturers Serving Missouri

For informational purposes only; no endorsement is implied by their mention.

## Missouri

### *Atlas Safe Rooms*

601 S. McKinley Ave.  
Joplin, MO 64801  
Phone: 800-781-0112  
Email: [sales@atlassaferooms.com](mailto:sales@atlassaferooms.com)  
Web: [www.atlassaferooms.com](http://www.atlassaferooms.com)

### *Calus Precast Concrete*

211 E. 20th St.  
Mountain Grove, MO 65711  
Phone: 417-926-6000 or 417-259-4283

### *F5 Storm Shelters*

1767 N. Deffer Drive  
Nixa, MO 65714  
Phone: 417-714-9822  
Email: [matt@myf5stormshelter.com](mailto:matt@myf5stormshelter.com)  
Web: <http://www.myf5stormshelter.com>

### *FamilySAFE Storm Shelters*

221 W. North St.  
Republic, MO 65738  
Phone: 417-732-7233 or 417-848-3791  
Email: [rrayl@varsityfs.com](mailto:rrayl@varsityfs.com)  
Web: <http://www.familysafemo.com>

### *Missouri Storm Shelters, Inc.*

1839 N. Commerce Drive  
Nixa, MO 65714  
Phone: 417-725-0055  
Web: <http://www.missouristormshelters.com>

### *Ozark Wilbert Vault Co.*

310 Spruce St.  
Cabool, MO 65689  
Phone: 417-962-3126  
Web: <http://www.siprecast.com>

### *Reliable Storm Shelters*

Carthage, MO 64836  
Phone: 417-850-5562 or 417-861-7178  
Web: <http://www.reliablestormshelters.com>

### *Ron Norris*

7911 County Road 5090  
West Plains, MO 65775  
Phone: 417-274-8774  
Email: [rlnorris@centurylink.net](mailto:rlnorris@centurylink.net)  
(Builds poured-in-place concrete safe rooms within  
100-mile radius of West Plains)

### *Safe-T-First Storm Shelters / Steel Safe Rooms & Doors*

440 SW U.S. Highway 60  
Billings, MO 65610  
Phone: 417-744-1700 or 417-840-1085  
Web: <http://safe-t-first-shelters.com>

### *SI Precast Concrete*

Phone: 816-966-9000 (Grandview)  
573-243-6052 (Jackson)  
660-263-1213 (Moberly)  
417-962-3126 (Mountain Grove)  
417-581-3060 (Ozark)  
573-364-3800 (Rolla)  
417-883-2355 (Springfield)  
816-233-0248 (St. Joseph)  
573-378-5474 (Versailles)  
Web: <http://www.siprecast.com>

### *Staying Home Corporation*

2501 Anaconda Road  
Harrisonville, MO 64701  
Phone: 877-378-4275 or 816-380-2427  
Email: [amosm@stayinghome.com](mailto:amosm@stayinghome.com)  
Web: <http://stayinghome.com/products/bide-away-stormshelter/>

### *The Concrete Works, LLC*

One Concrete Way  
H.C.R. 72, Box 374  
Souder, MO 65773  
Phone: 417-265-3504  
Email: [info@theconcreteworks.com](mailto:info@theconcreteworks.com)  
Web: <http://www.theconcreteworks.com/stormshelters.html>

### *Tomado Guard*

21205 N. Ponderosa Road  
Clark, MO 65243  
Phone: 573-687-3253 or 573-673-1535  
Email: [info@tornadoguard.com](mailto:info@tornadoguard.com)  
Web: <http://tornadoguard.com>

### *TomadoShelter.com*

4439 W. Billings St., Suite C  
Springfield, MO 65807  
Phone: 417-720-8273  
Email: [tornadoshelterusa@gmail.com](mailto:tornadoshelterusa@gmail.com)  
Web: <http://www.tornadoshelter.com>

### *TwisterSafe, LLC*

9479 Gateway Drive  
Neosho, MO 64850  
Phone: 417-782-1039  
Email: [sales@twistersafe.com](mailto:sales@twistersafe.com)  
Web: <http://www.twistersafe.com>

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## Outside Missouri

### Arkansas

#### Arkansas Storm Shelters

4142 E. Main St.  
Russellville, AR 72801  
Phone: 479-967-7233 or 855-967-7233  
Web: <http://www.arkansasstormshelter.com>

#### Cozy Caverns Storm Shelters

135 Parris Lane  
Austin, AR 72007  
Phone: 501-920-7460  
Email: [jbg@cozycaverns.com](mailto:jbg@cozycaverns.com)  
Web: <http://www.cozycaverns.com>

#### DuPont StormRoom

##### Distributed by StormSolutions

206 S. Springfield St.  
Berryville, AR 72616  
Phone: 888-578-6769  
Email: [info@stormolutions.us](mailto:info@stormolutions.us)  
Web: <http://www.stormolutions.us>

#### NEA Shelters

3132 CC Road  
Ravenden Springs, AR 72460  
Phone: 870-892-0257

#### Tornado Tough Storm Shelters

1001 W. Walnut St.  
Rogers, AR 72756  
Phone: 888-597-8676  
Email: [frank@tornadotoughshelters.com](mailto:frank@tornadotoughshelters.com)  
Web: <http://tornadotoughshelters.com/storm-shelters>

### Illinois

#### Lifesaver Storm Shelters

450 E. Illinois Ave.  
Benton, IL 62812  
Phone: 618-435-3833  
Email: [info@shelteronline.com](mailto:info@shelteronline.com)  
Web: <http://www.shelteronline.com/dealer/Missouri.html>

#### SafeSheds, Inc.

7029 Parrill Road  
Alma, IL 62807  
Phone: 888-556-1531  
E-mail: [support@safesheds.com](mailto:support@safesheds.com)  
Web: <http://www.safesheds.com>

### Kansas

#### Canton Enterprises

701 W. Railroad  
P.O. Box 135  
Canton, KS 67428  
Phone: 888-323-3123  
Email: [info@stormshelters.biz](mailto:info@stormshelters.biz)  
Web: <http://www.stormshelters.biz>

#### Mauzey Construction

4393 252nd Road  
Arkansas City, KS 67005  
Phone: 620-442-8698  
Email: [info@mauzeyconstruction.com](mailto:info@mauzeyconstruction.com)  
Web: <http://www.mauzeyconstruction.com>

### Ohio

#### The Perfect Storm Shelter, LLC

8171 Tyler Blvd.  
Mentor, OH 44060  
Phone: 440-255-7525  
Email: [diedre@smpwelding.com](mailto:diedre@smpwelding.com)  
Web: <http://www.theperfectstormshelters.com>

### Oklahoma

#### F5 Storm Shelters

10846 S. Memorial Dr. #112  
Tulsa, OK 74133  
Phone: 918-970-4770 or 1-855-F5-ALIVE  
Email: [Blakef5stormshelters@gmail.com](mailto:Blakef5stormshelters@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.f5stormsheltersok.com](http://www.f5stormsheltersok.com)

#### Ground Zero Storm Shelters

4600 Independence Road  
Perry, OK 73077  
Phone: 877-880-1351 or 405-627-2245  
Email: [richard@groundzeroshelter.com](mailto:richard@groundzeroshelter.com)  
Web: <http://www.groundzeroshelters.com>

#### Hausner's Inc.

505 N. Griffith, P.O. Box 32  
Drumright, OK 74030  
Phone: 800-533-9509 or 918-352-3479  
Email: [hausnersprecast@earthlink.net](mailto:hausnersprecast@earthlink.net)  
Web: <http://www.hausners.com>

#### New Day Tornado Shelters

6040 E. Tecumseh St.  
Tulsa, OK 74115  
Phone: 918-277-3758  
Web: <http://www.newdaytornadoshelters.com>

### **Storm Safe Rooms**

13614 N. Old Highway 169  
Collinsville, OK 74021  
Phone : 800-324-9322 or 918-519-0576  
Email: [info@stormsaferoom.com](mailto:info@stormsaferoom.com)  
Web: <http://www.stormsaferoom.com>

### **Texoma MFG, LLC**

3324 N. First Ave.  
Durant, Oklahoma 74701  
Phone: 580-920-0878  
Email: [wayne@jcfab.net](mailto:wayne@jcfab.net)  
Web: <http://texomamfg.com/storm-shelters>

### **Tennessee**

#### **Providence Safe Rooms, Inc.**

3608 Old Hickory Blvd.  
Old Hickory, TN 37138  
Phone: 855-758-8038 or 615-758-8038  
Web: <http://www.providencesaferooms.com>

#### **RemagenSafeRooms**

P.O. Box 796  
Monteagle, TN 37356  
Phone: 888-397-7142  
Email: [info@remagensaferooms.com](mailto:info@remagensaferooms.com)  
Web: <http://www.remagensaferooms.com>

#### **Steel Storm Shelters, LLC**

365 Pleasant Springs Lane  
Henderson, TN 38340  
Phone: 866-427-8044  
Web: <http://www.steelstormshelters.com>

### **TornadoSafeRoom**

#### **Distributed by Floyd Arnold**

P.O. Box 10238  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
Phone: 1-877-723-7666  
Email: [floydarnold@comcast.net](mailto:floydarnold@comcast.net)  
Web: <http://www.tornadosaferoom.com>

### **Texas**

#### **Fiberglass Creations Inc.**

P.O. Box 2042  
1601 Hamlett St.  
Henderson, TX 75653  
Phone: 877-957-6616 or 903-657-6616  
Email: [fibercreate@tyler.net](mailto:fibercreate@tyler.net)  
Web: <http://www.fiberglasscreations.com>

#### **Jarrell Storm Shelters**

911 N. First St.  
Jarrell, TX 76537  
Phone: 866-817-0293 or 512-796-0614  
Email: [info@jarrellstormshelters.com](mailto:info@jarrellstormshelters.com)  
Web: <http://jarrellstormshelters.com>

#### **U.S. Storm Shelters**

443 Private Road 4215  
Decatur, TX 76234  
Phone: 800-868-5799 or 800-379-9712  
Email: [info@usstormshelters.com](mailto:info@usstormshelters.com)  
Web: <http://www.usstormshelters.com>

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*There may be other local companies not listed here that make concrete storm shelters. They are usually listed in the Yellow Pages as the same companies that sell septic tanks.*

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### **ALSO FROM MU EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS**

- EMW1001 Disaster Recovery Resources for Missouri Families
- EMW1011 Family Disaster Plan
- EMW1012 Disaster Supplies Kit
- EMW1024 Replacing Important Papers
- MP904 Resources for Your Flooded Home

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