

Notes for Tornadoes

- **Supercell Thunderstorms**
 - Extremely large thunderstorms capable of producing tornadoes
 - Contain rotating columns of air called mesocyclones
 - Occur when the wind blows in different directions and at different speeds with altitude.
 - Characterized by tall clouds that are anvil shaped and have a pronounced wall cloud.
- **Tornadoes**
 - Begin as funnel clouds created by rotating winds and are classified as tornadoes when they touch the ground.
 - Categorized according to the damage they cause. F1 – F5.
 - Dangers – high winds, debris, downed trees, downed powerlines.
 - Most common in Tornado alley but can occur anywhere east of the Rockies.