

INSURANCE BULLETIN: HIGH WINDS

Whether it's wintry weather conditions or spring storms, extreme wind can create situations that threaten your church building and cause severe damage in a matter of minutes if you are not adequately prepared. To ensure that your church and its facilities are ready to endure high winds, please review the information.

Protect your Roof

Contract with a roofing professional to ensure:

- The materials installed meet or exceed the local building code and are rated high for wind and impact resistance.
- The fasteners used to attach the sheathing and roofing system are strong enough to resist the force of strong winds.
- For metal roofs, the metal roofing does not have any missing or loose fasteners, rust or damage from past storms.
- For asphalt or rubber (EPDM) roofs, the flashing and coping are securely fastened to the building.
- Routinely inspect HVAC units, skylights and pipes to verify they are securely fastened to the roof top and won't be blown off during high winds.

Protect your Vehicles

- If possible, move all church vehicles inside a garage or other storage building.
- If you leave vehicles outside, park them in areas where they will not be subject to damage from falling tree branches, power lines, or other objects.

If you have questions, please

connect with your agent:

www.InsuranceBoard.org

Go To “Find An Agent”

Protect the Building's Exterior

- Walk around the exterior and make sure the building is well sealed to prevent wind from getting in cracks and crevices:
 - Siding and windows should be tightly attached.
 - All entry doors should be secured with a lock for maximum windstorm protection.
 - Stained glass windows are protected with a covering that prevents wind and storm damage.
- Walk around the exterior and make sure the grounds around the church are protected:
 - Storage sheds and other small structures should be securely fastened to their bases.
 - All items stored/installed outside should be securely anchored or moved inside (e.g. garbage cans, decorations, equipment, etc.).
 - All dumpsters should be secured, and their lids should be fastened closed.
 - Church signage should be tightly anchored to its base.
 - Trees and large plants should be pruned.

We recommend that you conduct periodic checks in preparation for high winds.