



THE WHITE PAGES

CAPITOL REPORT

WEEK OF APRIL 29, 2019

THE START OF TORNADO AND FLOOD SEASON

For many residents of rural Missouri, tornados and floods are a common occurrence during the spring and early parts of the summer. Many counties across our state have already experienced the devastation that comes with these natural disasters. In addition to state and federal assistance, many people in these communities depend on their neighbors and first responders to help them to navigate and access the available resources.

With the memory of the Joplin tornado of 2011 still fresh on our minds, which caused 161 fatalities, more than 1,000 injuries to residents living in the Joplin area, and 2.8 billion dollars in damages, it is important to keep potentially dangerous weather conditions in mind.

Tornadoes are not the only kind of storm that can cause major damage.

Thunderstorms and flash floods are also a significant cause of tragedy across our state.

According to officials, flash flooding kills an average of 140 people each year in the United States. With this in mind, I encourage my constituents in Dade, Jasper and Newton Counties to pay close attention to the National Weather Service alerts and to follow the hazardous weather tips provided by the Missouri Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). Severe storms and flooding can be life changing experiences for many families across Missouri. If you, or anyone you know, needs assistance or resources, please contact your local emergencies agencies in your county. If our office can assist in the resolution of any issues, feel free to reach out to us.

FLOOD SAFETY TIPS FROM THE MISSOURI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Always remember, don't drown, turn around.

Never expect barriers to block off flooded low-water crossings or bridges because floodwaters often rise so quickly authorities cannot close a road in time.

Be alert for high water whenever flash flooding is in the forecast.

Never be tempted to drive into floodwater because it appears shallow. Looks are deceiving, and the roadway may not be intact.

If you are stuck in flood water and your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.

Don't drive if you don't have to when flash flooding is occurring in your area.

Are you StormAware?

M I S S O U R I

Storm Aware

Some motorists never see high water until it's too late because of poor visibility due to darkness or heavy rain. Slow down when visibility is limited.

Never think that because you made it across a flooded low water crossing in the past that you'll make it the next time.

Use this interactive link to learn more about storms in your area.

CONTACT:

IF YOU HAVE ANY LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT

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CONSTITUENT VISITS TO THE CAPITOL



On the night of February 15, Joplin Police Officer Jeff Flenor saved a family of seven upon discovering their home on fire in the middle of the night. Officer Flenor immediately contacted the fire department and was able to get the entire family out of the house. He saved four children and three adults from the fire. Senator Bill White was honored to present Officer Flenor with a resolution for his bravery and courage.



Officer Jeff Flenor was joined by Police Chief Matt Stewart, Kathy Bennett, Lonnie Wilkins, Josh Houghton, Jessica Flener, Brooke Werries and Lori Werries when he was presented with a resolution on behalf of the Missouri Senate.



On Monday, April 29, Sen. Bill White welcomed students and their chaperones from Lockwood R-I Middle School District to the Missouri State Capitol.

STATE SENATOR BILL WHITE
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*Nothing is politically right
that is morally wrong*



*Free and fair discussion
is the firmest friend of truth*

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY