



# Andover Receives 13 Additional Minutes to Prepare

The City of Andover, Kansas, was struck by a violent F-5 tornado on April 26, 1991. Fourteen residents lost their lives and much of the city was left in ruin. Since 1991, Andover – now one of the fastest-growing cities in Kansas – has been at the forefront of providing its citizens with the finest possible warning of tornadoes. The city also has three public shelters for its residents lacking basements or safe rooms.

That enlightened approach paid off in the darkness of Saturday, April 14, 2012.

**Saturday, April 14th, 2012:** As tornado reports began to come in, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued two tornado warnings, one at 9:30pm and one at 9:45pm for Sedgwick County, KS, but did not include the City of Andover in the warning. Andover is on the Sedgwick-Butler county line.

**At 10:14pm:** AccuWeather issued a SkyGuard® tornado warning for Andover. AccuWeather based the warning on radar-sensed storm rotation southwest of the city. Upon receipt of the SkyGuard warning, Andover activated their sirens and warning system.

**At 10:20pm:** the NWS continued the tornado warning for Sedgwick County, but still did not extend it as far east as Andover. At 10:27pm, 13 minutes after AccuWeather issued its warning for Andover, the NWS issued a tornado warning that included Andover.

Thanks to the SkyGuard warning from AccuWeather, the City of Andover had 13 additional minutes of warning. Because of the SkyGuard warning, the citizens of Andover had ample warning to shelter in their homes and to get to area shelters. Luckily Andover only took a glancing blow, with minor damage.

By partnering with AccuWeather Enterprise Solutions, Andover was able to give its citizens thirteen extra minutes of warning time when compared to governmental warnings. With this extra notice, residents were able to get to the public shelters in plenty of time before the tornado arrived and parents –some of whom had children attending a prom –could insure the safety of their children.

**When extreme weather threatens, it is vital to receive the most accurate and timely information possible. Call us today to learn how we can protect your people and property. After all, the next storm is already on the way.**



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