

HAIL STORMS

HAIL IS ANOTHER UNDERESTIMATED HAZARD IN OUR REGION.

HAIL IS CREATED WHEN RAINDROPS PASS THROUGH COLD AIR ON THEIR WAY TO THE EARTH. THESE DESTRUCTIVE NUGGETS OF ICE RANGE IN SIZE FROM VERY SMALL TO EXTREMELY LARGE AND MOST OFTEN CAUSE EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY AND VEHICLES.

HAIL FACTS

- ACCORDING TO THE NOAA, APPROXIMATELY 24 PEOPLE ARE INJURED EACH YEAR AS A RESULT OF HAIL.
- HAILSTONES CAN VARY IN SIZE, FROM THE SIZE OF A PEA (1/4 INCH) TO LARGER THAN A SOFTBALL (4.5 INCHES).
- LARGE HAIL, THE SIZE OF A TENNIS BALL OR LARGER, CAN FALL AT SPEEDS FASTER THAN 100 MILES PER HOUR AND CAN BATTER ROOFTOPS, SHATTER WINDOWS AND "TOTAL" AUTOMOBILES.
- THE HAILSTORM THAT HIT SOUTH TEXAS IN MARCH 2016 HAS NOW BEEN DECLARED ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE IN STATE HISTORY. ACCORDING TO THE INSURANCE COUNCIL OF TEXAS, THE DAMAGES ARE ESTIMATED TO BE NEARLY \$1.4 BILLION.

STAYING SAFE WHEN THE SKY IS FALLING

- IF STORMY WEATHER IS COMING TOWARD YOU, MOVE CARS, BOATS, RVs, AND LAWN AND PATIO FURNITURE INTO A COVERED AREA. DON'T TRY TO MOVE VEHICLES DURING A HAIL STORM.**
- SEEK SHELTER DURING A STORM. NO MATTER WHAT SIZE HAILSTONES ARE FALLING, THEY ARE DANGEROUS WHEN PUSHED BY HIGH WINDS.**
- USE CAUTION IF OUTSIDE. NOT ONLY IS HAIL DANGEROUS, BUT IT CAN ALSO CAUSE ROADWAYS AND SIDEWALKS TO BECOME SLICK.**