

SHELTER ETOWAH SAFER PLACE

What is a Safer Place?

A Safer Place is a facility that has received the voluntary designation of 'Safer Place' from the Gadsden/Etowah County EMA through Alabama Act 2021-165. This designation allows a facility to serve as a place of refuge during severe weather but does not mean that the facility is a FEMA-rated saferoom or community shelter.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any facility that is open to the public such as businesses, churches, community groups, municipal buildings, etc. are all eligible to apply to be a part of the Safer Places program in Etowah County. The Safer Places program does not apply to residential buildings.

CHECKLIST

- Three (3) people Identified to be a 24/7 contact for your facility.
- A signed Copy of the Safer Places Guidelines
- A signed copy of the Shelter Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)



FACILITY GUIDELINES

- The facility should provide improved protection from the elements.
- The condition of the facility should be suitable for occupation, and nothing in the facility should pose a direct threat to the health and safety of those seeking refuge.
- There must be a secondary exit from the facility, to provide for safe exit in the event of fire or another emergency.
- There must be smoke detectors that comply with applicable building codes.
- There should be sufficient sanitary facilities that are in proper operating condition, are private, and are adequate for personal cleanliness and the disposal of human waste.
- These facilities should be ADA-accessible whenever possible.

Will your facility become a Safer Place for others?

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