

## PRECAST CONCRETE STORM SHELTERS AND SAFE ROOMS SAVE LIVES

When severe weather approaches, precast concrete safe rooms and storm shelters provide protection and peace of mind for families and communities. Here are just six benefits of using precast concrete to construct storm shelters and safe rooms:

- 1. STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY** Precast concrete provides the structural integrity necessary to provide trustworthy shelter from relentless storms and extreme wind. Precast concrete safe rooms are able to support loads independently without relying on adjacent support materials or soils.
- 2. EXTREME WIND PROTECTION** Here in the Midwest, we know that “April showers” can bring much more than “May flowers.” Tornadoes, straight-line winds and their accompanying damage are something Midwesterners know too well. Precast concrete safe rooms designed to meet the FEMA 320 and FEMA 361 requirements are able to withstand all extreme wind forces, including projectiles, offering not only complete security but peace of mind.
- 3. ACCESS AND ENTRY** Precast concrete storm shelters can be effectively designed to have access and entry points comply with ICC standards.
- 4. READY TO GO UPON ARRIVAL** When precast concrete safe rooms are delivered, they are ready to go! This benefit can save valuable days, weeks or even months on a project compared with other materials. Precast concrete safe rooms can even be effectively installed in extreme weather conditions and in remote locations.
- 5. THERMAL MASS** Have you ever been in a small space with a big group of people? Well, precast concrete’s ability to moderate temperature fluctuations is a huge benefit because it helps to keep the temperature inside safe rooms moderated and manageable as opposed to hot and sweaty!
- 6. VENTILATION** Because precast concrete offers design flexibility, ventilation openings are easily fabricated during the precast manufacturing process and can be installed to even the most custom of specifications.



When extreme weather threatens, individuals and communities need structurally sound safe rooms and storm shelters to provide protection. Precast concrete provides life-saving benefits when used in the construction of safe rooms and shelters. For more information on precast concrete safe rooms and storm shelters, contact PCI Midwest.