



What would you do if you saw this **tornado** (tor•NAY•doh)? Would you get away from it as fast as you could? Would you find a safe place to hide? Most people

would, but danger chasers are not “most people.” When there is danger, danger chasers want to get *close* to it.

Is a river rising over a bridge? Is a huge wave about to hit the coast? Is a fire going to burn down a forest? Danger chasers can't wait to find out. They want to see it as it happens.

## **News Reporters**

Some **news reporters** chase danger. *News reporters* tell the news, in writing or on TV. It is their job to tell about **disasters**. *Disasters* are very bad things that happen.

News reporters tell us what is going

on. They tell about weather disasters.

**Hurricanes** are weather disasters that happen near the coast. High winds and water hit homes and stores. When there are hurricanes, people have to leave or they might get hurt.

Tornadoes are weather disasters, too. Tornadoes have high winds and pull things up from the ground. They tear up things in their path. People have to leave when there are tornadoes, too.

News reporters tell people when it is time to leave. Then *they* stay to get the story. They work with a team. Members of the team take pictures. They send the

pictures to TV stations. They face danger so that people know what is going on.

## **Storm Chasers**

**Storm chasers** also go where the weather disasters are. They get close to tornadoes. They get close to other kinds of storms, too. They take pictures. They report to news stations.

Some storm chasers do the job for fun. They like to do things that are scary. They like to see storms up close. Other storm chasers are scientists. They want to learn about tornadoes and other storms. They want to see how they form. They

use what they find out to tell people if a storm is coming. They want to save lives. So they do tests. They check wind speeds. They look at computer models. They forget their fear and get close to the storm.



**Storm chasers use computers to do their work. This storm chaser has a computer in his truck.**

It is not safe to be close to a tornado. No one knows what path the tornado will take. The path can change very fast. In 2013, three storm chasers died when a tornado turned all of a sudden. The tornado was more than 2½ miles wide. The storm chasers could not get out of the way. It was very sad. Those storm chasers had saved many lives by doing their work. They had helped many people get out of the way of tornadoes.

## **Volcanologists**

Have you taken a walk on a **volcano** (vahl•KAY•noh)? Most volcanoes are safe. They are not going to blow up soon. They

don't have smoke coming out of them.

Some volcanoes *do* have smoke coming out of them. Maybe they *will* blow up soon. If they do, people who live near them could get hurt. Who can tell people if the volcano is going to blow up? **Volcanologists** (vahl•kuh•NAH•luh•jists) can.

*Volcanologists* are scientists who study volcanoes. They study old and new volcanoes. They study volcanoes that are about to blow up. If they think a volcano will blow up soon, they tell people. Then the people can leave. They can be safe.

It's not safe for volcanologists to stay on these volcanoes, but some of them do.

They stay to learn. Then they try to leave before it is too late.



**This volcanologist is dressed for work!**