

Lightning Safety Week

What to do during Thunder & Lightning Storms



If thunder and lightning storms are occurring in your area, you should:

- Listen to TV or radio local news stations or use a battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio for current weather/storm reports.
- Avoid contact with corded phones and devices, including those plugged into electrical outlets for recharging. Cordless and wireless phones not connected to wall outlets are OK to use.
- Avoid contact with electrical equipment or cords. Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers and turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can cause serious damage.
- Avoid contact with plumbing and water. Do not wash your hands; do not take a shower; do not wash dishes or do laundry. Plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.

If caught outside:

- Avoid natural lightning rods such as a tall, isolated tree in an open area.
- Avoid hilltops, open fields, the beach, or a boat on the water.
- Take shelter in a sturdy building. Avoid isolated sheds or other small structures in open areas.
- Avoid contact with anything metal – tractors, farm equipment, motorcycles, golf carts, golf clubs, and bicycles.