



Lightning Safety

Summer is the peak time of the year for lightning strikes and lightning fires. However, lightning does occur year round. It's important to be prepared for this dangerous weather phenomenon.

SAFETY TIPS

Outdoor Safety

- **If you can hear** thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Seek shelter immediately inside a house, large building, or a hard-topped vehicle. Avoid shelter under tall trees. There is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder before leaving your shelter.
- **Stay away** from windows and doors.
- **If you are in** or on open water, go to land and seek shelter immediately.
- **If you feel** your hair stand on end, indicating that lightning is about to strike, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Make yourself the smallest target possible and minimize your contact with the ground. Do not lie flat on the ground. This is a last resort when a building or hard-topped vehicle is not available.
- **If a person is struck** by lightning, call **9-1-1** and get medical care immediately. Lightning strike victims carry no electrical charge; attend to them immediately. Check their breathing, heartbeat, and pulse. CPR may be needed.



Indoor Safety

- **Unplug** appliances and other electrical items, such as computers, and turn off air conditioners. If you are unable to unplug them, turn them off.
- **Stay off** corded phones, computers, and other electronic equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity or plumbing. Avoid washing your hands, bathing, doing laundry, or washing dishes.

— Your Source for SAFETY Information —