

Thunderstorms and Lightning

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: advises when and where severe thunderstorms are most likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to TV or radio to know when warnings are issued.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property for those in the path of the storm.

What To Do When Thunderstorms Approach:

- Go to safe shelter immediately!
- Move to a sturdy building or car.
- Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.
- Get out of boats and away from water.
- Turn off air conditioners.
- Get to higher ground if flash flooding or flooding is possible. Once flooding begins, abandon cars and climb to higher ground.
- If caught outdoors and no shelter is nearby, find a spot away from trees, fences, and poles.

Ways to Avoid Becoming a Victim of Lightning:

- When outdoors, rush to safety at the first flash of lightning, crack of thunder or even darkening of the sky. Be aware - Hazy skies, especially in the East, can often hide thunderstorms.
- All thunderstorms are dangerous.
- Cars can offer shelter from lightning if necessary.