

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING



PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY Thunder and Lightning Storms

According to Environment Canada, New Brunswick averages the highest number of days of thunderstorms a year in Atlantic Canada. Since these are more frequent from June to August, New Brunswickers need to be prepared at this time of year.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THUNDER AND LIGHTNING STORMS

Thunderstorm watch means: monitor weather conditions through a local media station or website and take appropriate precautions.

Thunderstorm warning means: seek shelter indoors and continue to monitor weather conditions.

HOW TO STAY SAFE DURING THUNDER AND LIGHTNING STORMS

- Remember: **When thunder roars, go indoors.** Find a safe, enclosed shelter. Safe shelters include homes, offices, shopping centers, and hard-top vehicles with the windows rolled up.
- If you are in a car, do not touch any exposed metal connected to the car.
- Sheds, picnic shelters, tents or covered porches do not protect you from lightning.
- If you are caught in an open area, act quickly to find adequate shelter. The most important action is to remove yourself from danger. Crouching or getting low to the ground can reduce your chances of being struck but does not remove you from danger. **If you are caught outside with no safe shelter nearby, the following actions may reduce your risk:**
 - * immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges, or peaks;
 - * never lie flat on the ground. Crouch down in a ball-like position with your head tucked and hands over your ears so that you are down low with minimal contact with the ground;
 - * never shelter under an isolated tree;
 - * never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter;
 - * immediately get out of and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water; and
 - * stay away from objects that conduct electricity (such as barbed wire fences, power lines or windmills).
- Do not handle electrical equipment, telephones or plumbing. These are all electrical conductors. Using a computer or wired video game system, taking a bath or touching a metal window frame all put you at risk of being struck by lightning. Use battery-operated appliances only.
- Once you are in a safe location, you can calculate the distance of the lightning strike. After the flash, count off the seconds until the thunder is heard. Divide the seconds by 3 (three) to arrive at the distance in kilometers. Example: 15 (fifteen)-seconds / 3 (three) = 5 (five)-kilometers away.
- Stay inside a safe location until 30 (thirty)-minutes after the last rumble of thunder.

AFTER THUNDER AND LIGHTNING STORMS

Inspect any damage that may have occurred to your property.



Village of New Maryland

584 New Maryland Hwy., New Maryland, NB E3C 1K1

Phone: 451-8508