

Everyday Safety

Tailgate Talks

Thunderstorm & Lightning Safety

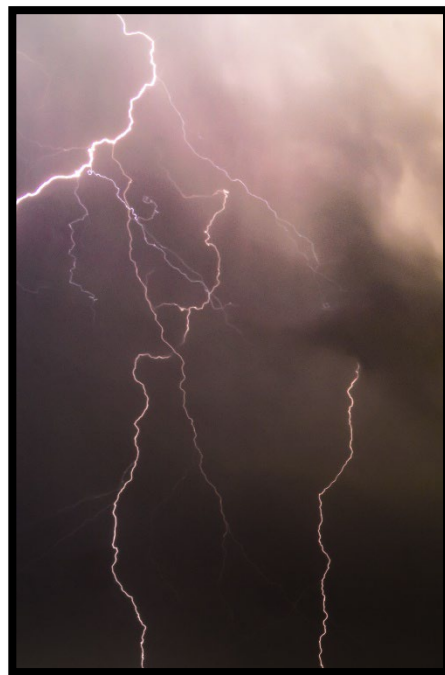
This Everyday Safety Tailgate Talk was originally published as part of the June 2016 training series “The Safety Pins” by Phillip E. Spiezio, Washington County Safety Office

Thunderstorms and lightning are most likely to develop on hot, humid days, and can be very dangerous. Lightning kills about 80 people each year and injures hundreds.

Lightning seeks “ground” to discharge its energy and will complete the circuit by striking the tallest object such as a tree, power pole, a person standing in the field, etc.

Lightning Myths

- Rubber tires on a car protect you from lightning by insulating you from the ground
 - TRUTH: It is not the rubber tires that protect during a lightning strike. The metal frame of the car protects you from the electricity passing through the vehicle into the ground.
- Lightning does not strike the same place twice
 - TRUTH: Lightning often strikes the same place multiple times. The tallest object in an area.
- If you don't see rain or clouds, you are safe.
 - TRUTH: Lightning often strikes more than three miles from the thunderstorm, far outside the rain or even the thunderstorm cloud.
 - “Bolts of Blue” are infrequent, but have been known to strike areas as distant as 10 miles from the thunderstorm origins where the sky appears clear.



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Safeguards

- Pay attention to the daily forecasts so you know what to expect during the day.
- Pay attention to early signs of thunderstorms: High winds, dark clouds, rain, distant thunder, or lightning.
- Use the 30-30 rule
 - When you see lightning, count the seconds until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the storm is within 6 miles and is dangerous.
 - Seek shelter immediately. A safe shelter is an enclosed building. A metal topped vehicle is also safe. Avoid open-air structures and tall trees.
 - Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter.
- Stay off and away from tall objects like scaffolding, ladders, and large equipment (bulldozers, cranes, etc.).
- If someone is struck –
 - Victims do not carry an electrical charge & may need immediate medical attention
 - Monitor the victim & begin CPR or AED, if necessary
 - Call 911 for help



Date: / /

Thunder and Lightning Safety Sign in Sheet

Name:

Signature:
