

# BE PREPARED FOR A THUNDERSTORM, LIGHTNING OR HAIL

Lightning is a leading cause of injury and death from weather-related hazards.



FEMA

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Thunderstorms are dangerous storms that include lightning.



Include powerful winds



Create lightning and hail



Cause flash flooding and tornadoes

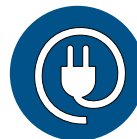
## IF YOU ARE UNDER A THUNDERSTORM WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

When thunder roars, go indoors.



Pay attention to alerts and warnings.

Move from outdoors into a building or car.



Unplug appliances.



Do not use landline phones.

# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A THUNDERSTORM THREATENS

## Prepare NOW

**Know your area's risk of thunderstorms.** They can occur year-round and at any hour.

**Sign up for your community's warning system.** The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

**Identify sturdy buildings close** to where you live, work, study, and play.

**Cut down or trim trees** that may be in danger of falling on your home.

**Consider buying surge protectors,** lightning rods, or a lightning protection system to protect your home, appliances, and electronic devices.

**Secure outside furniture.**

## Survive DURING

**When thunder roars, go indoors.** A sturdy building is the safest place to be during a thunderstorm.

**Pay attention to weather reports and warnings** of thunderstorms. Be ready to change plans, if necessary, to be near shelter.

**When you receive a thunderstorm warning** or hear thunder, go inside immediately.

**If indoors, avoid running water** or using landline phones. Electricity can travel through plumbing and phone lines.

**Protect your property.** Unplug appliances and other electric devices.

**If boating or swimming,** get to land and find a sturdy, grounded shelter or vehicle immediately.

**If necessary, take shelter in a car with a metal top and sides.** Do not touch anything metal.

**Avoid flooded roadways.** Turn Around Don't Drown®. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

## Be Safe AFTER

**Pay attention to authorities and weather forecasts** to know whether it is safe to go outside and to get information regarding potential flash flooding.

**Watch for fallen power lines and trees.** Report them immediately.

## Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to [Ready.gov/thunderstorms-lightning](https://www.ready.gov/thunderstorms-lightning). Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for **thunderstorm, lightning** or **hail**.



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