



Lightning Safety Guidelines

Purpose: The City of Lynn Haven, through the Department of Sports and Recreation, provides these Lightning Safety Guidelines to be followed by employees and participants of activities hosted by the City of Lynn Haven's Department of Sports and Recreation. Florida is the lightning capital of the United States, and lightning is only second to flash floods in terms of annual deaths caused by storm-related hazards.

Scope: These Safety Guidelines apply to all employees and community patrons who participate in events hosted by the City of Lynn Haven's Department of Sports and Recreation.

1. Proximity:

- The City of Lynn Haven receives lightning alerts from StormGeo through the Lynn Haven Fire Department. When lightning is within 10 miles of an event or activity, everyone must get off the playing fields for a minimum of 30 minutes or until there is an all-clear from StormGeo.
- Anytime lightning is visible, or thunder is audible, all participants should **TAKE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY**.

2. Safety Zones:

- Employees, umpires, referees and/or event supervisor(s) should instruct all players, coaches, and fans that a danger is present, and they should seek a lightning-safe shelter immediately. Recommended places for shelter are:
 - An enclosed building .
 - A metal-topped vehicle with windows up.

3. Danger Zones:

- Employees, umpires, referees, and/or event supervisors should instruct all players, coaches, and fans to **AVOID** the following locations or situations:
 - Plumbing, including sinks, baths, showers, and faucets.
 - Windows, doors, open porches.
 - Lying flat on the ground or on concrete areas,
 - Sheltering under an isolated tree.
 - Standing in puddles, standing water, ponds, lakes, or other bodies of water.

- Objects that conduct electricity, including electrical equipment such as corded phones and computers.

4. Safety Position:

- If the hair on your head or arms stands up or if you feel a tingling sensation:
 - Immediately crouch down, put your feet together, lower your head, cover your ears, and close your eyes. Remain in that position till the sensations subside.
 - Maintain a minimum of 15 feet for other people.

5. Emergency Services:

- If anyone is struck by lightning, please call 911 **IMMEDIATELY**.

6. Compliance:

- These Safety Guidelines are not intended to be all inclusive. All park users assume all risks associated with the use of parks including potential of lightning strikes or other dangers resulting from inclement weather. We make no guarantee that the StormGeo Alert system will function as designed.