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Lightning - Summer Long Fireworks!



Lightning kills as many as 2,000 people worldwide every year - about 300 in the United States. Hundreds more people are struck but survive, usually with lingering and debilitating symptoms.

The odds of being struck by lightning in a given year are about 1 in 500,000. Some higher risks apply for certain areas of the country.

Lightning - FAQs

Who gets struck more often? Men are five times more likely to be struck. And young adults in the 15-35 age range who spend a lot of time outdoors with work or recreational activities.

What happens when a person is struck by lightning? About 10% of the people struck by lightning die. Injuries include: trauma, neurological issues, muscle and eye injuries, and skin lesions/burns. Most are temporary.

How can I help if someone near me gets struck by lightning? CALL 911! Administer basic first aid and do whatever the 911 operator tells you to do. Lightning strike victims are not electrified - you can touch them without fear.



Lightning MYTHS

- Stay off corded phones.
- Shut off computers and other electronic equipment.
- Stay out of showers/tubs and away from plumbing or water.
- Stay away from windows and doors.
- Go inside or find safe shelter.

What is safe shelter? Shelter that is enclosed: buildings with walls and a roof, hard-top vehicles with the windows rolled up.

If I'm caught outside without shelter, do I lay down and become flat to the ground like you do in a tornado? No. Do not lay down - crouch or squat with as little of your body touching the ground as possible. Lightning travels along the surface of the ground.

Is it true lightning never strikes the same place twice? No. Lightning often strikes the same place repeatedly.

How long after a storm can I go back to what I was doing? Wait about 30 minutes after you see the last lightning flash or hear thunder. Victims have been struck as much as 10 miles away.

Combined information sources: cdc.gov, nationalgeographic.com

Lightning only strikes the tallest objects.

Waiting under a tree is better than no shelter at all.

You're safe if you don't see rain clouds.

A car's rubber tires will protect you.

If you're outside, lie flat on the ground.

You'll be electrocuted if you touch a lightning strike victim.

Wearing metal attracts lightning.

A house will always keep you safe from being struck by lightning.

Surge suppressors can protect a home from lightning.

Read the answers for yourself: www.iii.org/article/lightning-safety-10-myths-and-the-facts.

Do you have questions about your insurance?

Do you have the insurance you need?

Have you had any life changes that might affect your insurance coverage?

Call us today! We'll look at what you have and answer your questions.

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