



Oneida County Emergency Services

Citizen Preparedness

*Thunderstorm Safety Tips**

Before a Storm

Check the weather forecast before leaving for extended periods outdoors.

Watch for signs of approaching storms.

If a storm is approaching, keep a NOAA Weather Radio or AM/FM radio with you.

Postpone outdoor activities if storms are imminent.

Check on neighbors who require special assistance such as infants, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

Remember

If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning.

When Thunder Roars

Go Indoors!

During a Thunderstorm

Go to safe shelter immediately

Move to a sturdy building.

Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.

If lightning occurs and sturdy shelter is not available, get inside a hard top automobile and keep windows up.

Get out of boats and away from water.

Telephone lines and metal pipes can conduct electricity. Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining weather information.

Avoid using the telephone or any electrical appliances. Use phones only in an emergency.

Do not take a bath or shower.

Turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can overload the compressors.

Get to higher ground if flash flooding or flooding is possible. Do not attempt to drive to safety. Most flash flooding deaths occur in automobiles.

Outdoors

Find a low spot away from trees, fences, and poles.

If you are in the woods, take shelter under short trees.

If you feel your skin tingle or your hair stands on end, perform the following actions:

Squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet.

Place your hands on your knees with your head between them.

Make yourself the smallest target possible

Minimize your contact with the ground.

After the Storm

Check on neighbors who may require special assistance -infants, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

Avoid all downed power lines. Assume that all have live electricity.

Continue to monitor NOAA Weather Radio and your local media for latest weather updates and official information.