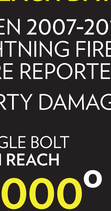
LIGHTNING MYTHS EXPOSED

Summer is the peak time of the year for lightning strikes and fires. Know the facts and debunk the myths to stay safe.

100 LIGHTNING STRIKES **EACH SECOND**



8.6 M STRIKES **EACH DAY**

BETWEEN 2007-2011
22,600 LIGHTNING FIRES
WERE REPORTED

$451 M IN PROPERTY DAMAGE



A SINGLE BOLT
CAN REACH
50,000°
FAHRENHEIT

5X'S HOTTER THAN THE SUN

1

MYTH
Lightning only strikes tallest objects.

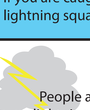


FACT
It can hit anything of any height.

SAFETY TIP: ONLY SHELTERS THAT CONTAIN PLUMBING/WIRING THROUGHOUT, OR A MECHANISM FOR GROUNDING FROM THE ROOF TO GROUND ARE SAFE

2

MYTH
Rubber tires on a car keep you safe.



FACT
The metal frame does.

SAFETY TIP: DON'T TOUCH INTERIOR METALLIC AREAS ON A VEHICLE

3

MYTH
If it's not raining or there aren't clouds overhead, you're safe from lightning.



FACT
Lightning often strikes more than three miles from the center of the thunderstorm, far outside the rain or thunderstorm cloud.

SAFETY TIP: WHEN THUNDER ROARS GO INDOORS

4

MYTH
Surge suppressors can protect a structure against lightning.



FACT
Surge suppressors are important, but can do nothing to protect a structure against a direct lightning strike.

SAFETY TIP: CONSIDER INSTALLING A LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEM

5

MYTH
If you are caught outside, assume the lightning squat.

FACT
People are endangered by ground lightning because if lightning hits a tree, it can spread along the surface of the earth. Keep moving and seek shelter at the first sign of a storm.

SAFETY TIP: DO NOT LIE ON CONCRETE FLOORS NOR LEAN ON CONCRETE WALLS

6

MYTH
A lightning victim is electrified. If you touch them, you'll be electrocuted.

FACT
The human body does not store electricity. It is perfectly safe to touch a lightning victim to give them first aid.

SAFETY TIP: CALL 911 AND ADMINISTER CARE TO THE VICTIM

7

MYTH
If it takes less than 30 seconds to hear thunder after a lightning flash, you are close enough to be in danger.

FACT
The new rule is to go inside a shelter or hard-topped metal vehicle at the first sound of thunder.

SAFETY TIP: STAY IN A SAFE SHELTER AT LEAST 30 MINUTES AFTER YOU HEAR THE LAST SOUND OF THUNDER

8

MYTH
If you are in a building, you are 100% safe from lightning.

FACT
A building is a safe place to be during a thunderstorm as long as you avoid anything that conducts electricity.

SAFETY TIP: AVOID CONTACT WITH ANY PLUMBING & STAY OFF ELECTRONICS DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH ELECTRICITY

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