



Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management

PUBLIC SAFETY, PUBLIC TRUST

TIPS & REMINDERS

Don't Let Thunder Steal Fun Times Outdoors

Visit Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management  FACEBOOK PAGE and  WEBSITE at www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/em.home
for more on mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery



Avoid the dangers of lightning strikes while enjoying the outdoors

- Listen to weather forecasts
- If thundersotrms are predicted, cancel or postpone outdoor activities
- While outdoors, monitor weather conditions
- If the sky looks threatening or you hear thunder, go in to a safe place
- Remain inside the safe place for 30 minutes after the last thunder

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When thunder roars, go indoors.

Simple family gatherings, competing on the playing fields, and exercising along the walking paths are a few of the many springtime activities that find people enjoying the outdoors. But, in the flash of a moment, sometimes unexpected thunderstorms can steal a fun time outdoors.

When you hear the rumble of thunder, lightning could be nearby. With a little pre-planning, though, a dangerous situation can easily be managed. “Are You Ready? An In-Depth guide to Citizen Preparedness” provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers some important tips.

Before planned outdoor gatherings, tune in to local weather forecasts during the week leading up to the gathering. If the forecast is for severe thunderstorms, time is on your side to consider cancelling or postponing the outdoor activity. When the thunderstorm sneaks up on your outdoor gathering, the sky looks threatening, or you hear thunder, go in to a safe place. Remain inside the safe place for 30 minutes after the last thunder. Remember, **WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS.**



For those in charge of organized outdoor activities, to aid in the safety of those participating, **MAKE A PLAN BEFORE GATHERING** and **SHARE THIS PLAN** with those involved. Include the following:

- Note, in the plan, the individual(s) responsible for officially monitoring the weather either visually, electronically or both.
- Identify who will halt the activity according to the plan's pre-identified criteria. When halting the activity, consider how long it will take everyone to get to safety.
- Name and inform everyone of the safe place to report to during severe weather events.
- Know who will communicate these action steps and how they will be communicated.

Make a plan, so that springtime weather events like unexpected thunderstorms don't spoil your outdoor fun.

For more information you can also visit our website:

https://www.bastropcounty.gov/page/em.emergency_pre

