

# HOME MATTERS

Provided by: Hodge, Hart & Schleifer

## Lightning Safety Considerations

Lightning storms are incredibly dangerous and more deadly than tornadoes, floods and hurricanes. When a storm is on the verge of striking your area, you need to know the steps to take in order to protect your family and home.

## LIGHTNING SAFETY

Use these tips to stay safe during a lightning storm:

- Seek shelter in an enclosed building, if possible.
- If you are in a car, stay inside and keep the windows securely rolled up.
- Do not use a small shed, pavilion or lean-to as shelter—they do not provide enough protection.
- Do not use a landline telephone during a storm. Instead, use a cellular or cordless phone that is not connected to the building's wiring.
- If you're outside during a lightning storm, get as close to the ground as possible without placing your hands or knees on the ground.
- Avoid seeking shelter near trees, metal fences, pipes or tall and long objects.
- If you are swimming, boating or fishing, seek shelter on land immediately.

## Safety First

If someone you know is struck by lightning, contact emergency personnel immediately. A lightning strike can cause the heart to stop and a person to stop breathing.

If you have the proper medical training, administer CPR to victims who do not have a pulse and treat conscious victims for burns, fractures and other wounds.

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