

# City of Fairfax

## Thunderstorm Safety Checklist



### **Severe Thunderstorm Watch**

- Conditions are favorable for the development of a severe thunderstorm in the area.
- Monitor NOAA Weather Radio or local radio/TV weather broadcasts and be prepared to take protective measures should a warning be issued.
- Review your family disaster plan.
- Be aware of approaching storms. If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be in danger of being struck by lightning.
- Secure or bring inside any loose items that could be affected by high winds or flooding.
- Secure doors and windows.
- If outdoors, find shelter. If you cannot reach a safe building or your car, avoid high ground, water, tall isolated trees, and metal objects.
- Make sure you have your disaster supply kits available.
  - For information on how to build a kit visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/EM/EM.asp](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/EM/EM.asp)
- Continue to monitor your NOAA Weather Radio or local/TV weather broadcasts for updated information.

### **Severe Thunderstorm Warning**

- Severe thunderstorm has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. This warning indicates imminent danger to life and property in the area.
- Take protective measures immediately and seek shelter.
- Postpone any outdoor activities.
- Take shelter in a substantial building or in a vehicle with the windows closed. Picnic shelters, dugouts, and sheds are NOT safe.
- If time permits, complete watch checklist.
- Stay away from windows and doors until the thunderstorm warning has expired.
- Unplug sensitive electronic equipment such as computers and televisions.
- Avoid using plumbing and bathroom fixtures because they can conduct electricity.
- Continue to monitor your NOAA Weather Radio or local radio/TV weather broadcasts for updated information.



For more information on disaster and emergency preparedness, visit [Fairfaxva.gov/EM/EM.asp](http://Fairfaxva.gov/EM/EM.asp)

