

# Play it Safe



## **There is no safe place outside when thunderstorms are in the area.**

Did you know that lightning kills more people in Florida than all other weather hazards combined? Please use the following tips to stay safe in the event of an oncoming thunderstorm.



## **Monitor threatening weather.**

Be aware of thunderstorm watches and warnings and look for darkening skies, flashes of lightning or increased wind, which may be signs of a developing or approaching thunderstorm.



## **Check the latest forecast prior to a practice or event. Postpone activities if necessary.**

If thunderstorms are forecasted, most often during the summer months, consider postponing activities early to avoid being caught in a dangerous situation.



## **When thunder roars, go indoors.**

If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm. Suspend your activity immediately and instruct everyone to get to a safe structure. Avoid sheds, small or open shelters, dugouts, bleachers, or grandstands, and stay off corded phones and away from wiring or plumbing. If a sturdy building is not nearby, a hard-topped metal vehicle with the windows closed will offer good protection.



Apps for mobile devices are now available that provide access to a local network of lightning sensors. This may be an additional resource for you to assess surrounding weather conditions and practice personal safety.



Palm Beach County  
Board of County  
Commissioners