



ECKERD COLLEGE

Emergency Response Procedures

(12/03)

LIGHTNING

Lightning strikes are of serious concern here in the Florida.

If lightning threatens when you are inside:

1. Stay inside.
2. Stay away from open doors or windows, radiators, metal pipes, sinks, and plug-in electrical objects such as radios, electric typewriters, lamps, etc.
3. **Do not use plug-in electrical equipment.**
4. **Do not use the telephone.** Lightning may strike the telephone lines outside.

If lightning threatens when you are outside:

1. Seek shelter in a building, if possible.
2. When there is no shelter, avoid the highest objects in the area (trees, poles, etc.) Avoid being the highest object yourself. If only isolated trees are nearby, the best protection is to crouch or lie in the open, keeping at least as far away from isolated trees as they are high.
3. If you are wearing or carrying anything metal, get rid of it.
4. If you feel an electrical charge (hair stands on end, skin tingles), lightning may be about to strike you. Drop to your knees and bend forward, putting your hands on your knees. Persons struck by lightning receive a severe electrical shock and may be burned, but they carry no electrical charge and can be handled safely. A person struck by lightning can often be revived by prompt mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and cardiac compression (CPR).