

# How to Prepare for a Thunderstorm

## Prepare

### WHAT TO DO

- **Know your area's** risk for thunderstorms
  - In most places, they can occur year-round at any time
- **Sign up** for local alerts and warnings
  - Learn the difference between Warnings & Watches
- **Identify** nearby sturdy buildings close to where you live and work
- **Cut down or trim trees** that could fall and damage your property
- **Consider** buying surge protectors, or a lightning protection system for your home

## During

### WHAT TO DO

- **Stay indoors**
  - Sturdy buildings are the safest places to be during a thunderstorm
- **Avoid flooded roadways**
  - Six inches of fast-moving water can knock a person down
  - One foot of fast-moving water can sweep vehicles away
- **If indoors, avoid** running water or using landline phones
- **Protect your property**
  - Unplug appliances and other electronic devices
- **If necessary, take shelter in a car** with a metal top and sides
  - DO NOT touch anything metal to avoid electrocution

## After

### WHAT TO DO

- **Pay attention** to weather alerts and be ready to change plans if necessary
  - Listen to authorities for instructions regarding potential flash flooding
- **Watch** for fallen power lines and trees
  - Report any potential safety hazards to the appropriate authorities