

Catholic Mutual. . ."CARES"

FIRE PREVENTION

REDUCTION OF LIGHTNING EXPOSURE

Lightning occurs when air, water and ice in storm clouds come together then separate. Lightning is attracted to high standing objects whether it be the tallest building in a city or a person walking in an open meadow.

Protection of Buildings

Although lightning cannot be prevented, it can be interrupted and directed into the earth away from a structure. It is recommended that buildings which are located in high frequency storm areas, have construction heights above those nearby buildings or are situated on the top of a hill have a lightning protection system.

Protection of People

Besides causing substantial property damage, lightning can cause severe injury and even death.

Safety Rules

1. Stay away from trees, hilltops, open fields, and metal objects.
2. If outdoors, find shelter in a building or go to a low lying area such as a ditch or trench.
3. Do not operate any electrical equipment such as hair dryers.
4. Do not use telephone.
5. If driving, stay in your automobile.
6. Where possible, remain indoors.