

SAFETY CORNER

Lightning Facts

The most U.S. lightning strikes occur in June, July and August, according to the National Weather Service. To stay safe in a storm, seek shelter in a substantial building (not a tent, shed or covered porch) and review these facts:

- Lightning can strike the same spot repeatedly.
- Lightning will usually strike isolated structures and tall objects but there are exceptions.
- You should avoid open fields and never lie flat on the ground. Water doesn't attract lightning, but is an excellent conductor so avoid water in a storm.
- You aren't completely safe from lightning strikes inside a house. During storms, avoid windows, doors and anything that could conduct electricity, such as appliances, plumbing, computers, wires, TV cables and corded phones. And, don't lean against concrete walls or floors; they may have metal bars inside.
- Lightning often strikes more than 3 miles from the center of a thunderstorm — sometimes as far away as 10 to 15 miles.

