CITY OF HAMILTON - CORPORATE SAFETY GUIDELINE

DEVELOPED BY: CORPORATE WORKPLACE SAFETY SECTION
Guideline # COH-RQ-GD-021

DATE: February 2003
APPROVED BY: Corporate Management Team

LIGHTNING SAFETY
Emergency Action Plan for Lightning Storms

City Of Hamilton - Sports Fields
General Information

Lightning's behaviour is random and unpredictable. Preparedness and quick response is the best defence towards the lightning hazard.

Lightning Safety Program for City of Hamilton Athletic Fields

At the first signs of lightning or thunder, leave the field. Go to your vehicle and take shelter there with the windows rolled up. ("If you can hear it (thunder), Clear It (suspend activities)."

AVOID the rain and sun shelters and the dugout areas. These are not safe from lightning.

AVOID going underneath trees. Trees "attract" lightning.

AVOID metal fences, gates, and tall light poles and power poles.

Wait 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder before you leave shelter. Game officials will signal a resumption of activities.

City of Hamilton - Outdoor Parks
General Information

Lightning's behaviour is random and unpredictable. Preparedness and quick response is the best defence towards the lightning hazard.

Lightning Safety Program for City of Hamilton Parks

At the first signs of lightning or thunder, leave the park. Go to your vehicle and take shelter there with the windows rolled up. ("If you can hear it (thunder), Clear It (suspend activities)."
AVOID the rain and sun shelters in the park. These are not safe from lightning.
AVOID going underneath trees. Trees "attract" lightning.
AVOID metal fences, gates, and tall light poles and power poles.

Wait 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder before you resume outdoor activities.

City of Hamilton - Swimming Pools
General Information

Lightning's behaviour is random and unpredictable. Preparedness and quick response is the best defence towards the lightning hazard.

Our pools are connected to a much larger surface area via underground water pipes, gas lines, electric and telephone wiring, etc. A lightning strike in one place to this metallic network may induce shocks elsewhere. Outdoor pools are especially susceptible to lightning activity.

Lightning Safety Program for City of Hamilton Outdoor Pools

At the first signs of lightning or thunder, the pools will be evacuated. ("If you can hear it (thunder), Clear It (suspend activities)." They will remain cleared for 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder.

Patrons should leave the pool and the surrounding area. Seek shelter inside the main building, or in a fully enclosed metal vehicle with the windows up.

AVOID waiting under tall trees, umbrellas, or near electric power lines.
AVOID use of showers or other contact with water.
AVOID use of the telephone.
AVOID contact with metal objects.