

## **Severe Weather**

What to do...

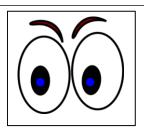
#### Lions Riverbend Campground, Town Parks and Recreational Areas



Severe weather conditions often develop during Manitoba summers.

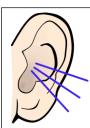
Thunder, lightning, hail and even tornados can develop quickly and have the potential to be extremely dangerous.

- It is important that you protect yourself when severe weather threatens.
  - BE PREPARED to act to ensure your own safety.
- The key to severe weather is to make yourself as small a target as possible.
  - Know your exits and nearest shelter locations/low-lying areas.



## Watch:

- For signs of severe weather.
- Hot and/or muggy/humid days and warm nights
   thunderstorms.
- Keep your eye on the sky.



# Listen:

- For warnings of imminent severe weather.
- Download local radio stations/Weather apps on your mobile devices.
- Monitor latest conditions often.

Radio/Television - Environment Canada will issue watches & warnings:

A "Watch":

Conditions are favorable for severe weather, though it has not yet developed.

A "Warning":

Severe weather is currently happening or highly probable.

## **Thunderstorms**

Often accompanied by hail, lightning, high winds, heavy rain and occasionally tornados.

#### Lightning:

- o To estimate distance, count the seconds between the flash of lighting and the thunder.
- Use the "30-30 Rule" Take appropriate shelter if you can count 30 seconds or less between the lightning flash and thunder rumble; and remain sheltered for 30 minutes after hearing the last of the thunder.
- If you are far from shelter, and feel your hair stand on end lightning may be about to hit. Kneel on the ground immediately (lowest area of the ground if possible), feet together, hands on your knees and bend forward, do not lie flat. If in a group – spread out, several yards apart.

#### Thunderstorm Shelter Do's & Do Not's:

- DO get inside a cabin or camper, if available;
- DO take shelter in a vehicle, if possible, and roll up windows;
- DO move your vehicle to an open space, away from trees;
- o DO NOT seek shelter in a tent, tents do not offer protection from lightning;
- DO NOT seek shelter under tall trees;
- DO NOT touch anything metal (or any appliances) in cabins, campers or vehicles.

### **Tornados**

Form suddenly, preceded by warm, humid weather, and produced by thunderstorms.

DO NOT FOLLOW TORNADOS IN YOUR CAR – TAKE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY

#### Warning signs:

- Extremely dark sky, at times highlighted by green or yellow clouds;
- Rumbling/whistling sound;
- Funnel cloud at rear base of a thundercloud, often behind a curtain of heavy rain or hail.

#### Tornado Shelter Do's & Do Not's:

- DO NOT take shelter in or under a cabin, tent, camper, RV or vehicle they offer little to no protection, DO leave immediately;
- DO take shelter in the nearest, sturdy building and, if possible, DO locate a basement/lowest room without windows:
- o DO lie in a low area, if shelter is not nearby, and DO cover your head & back of neck;
- DO wrap clothing/blanket around your body, small objects can cause serious injury;
- o DO NOT take shelter near big trees or under highway bridges/overpasses;
- DO NOT try to outrun the storm.

#### After Severe Weather...

- Administer emergency care to family/friends;
- Stay away from powerlines and puddles with electrical wires in them;
  - Watch for broken glass, nails and other sharp objects;
  - Stay out of any heavily damaged buildings, as they may collapse;
- Use flashlights rather than matches/lighter, as there may be leaking propane/fuel nearby;
  - When phone lines are available, call your emergency contacts and update them.