

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

 SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-0200 No. 23 Vol. 21 Week of 6/5/2023

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

SEVERE WEATHER

With warm summer months come family vacations, outdoor fun, and unfortunately, the threat of severe weather. The statistics are staggering. According to the National Weather Service, lightning has killed an average of 89 people every year for the last 30 years. Tornadoes strike the United States more than 500 times a year, killing hundreds and injuring many more. This year more than **100 people were killed** by tornadoes, and that was just in the end of March and the beginning of April. Entire communities woke up to total devastation.

Lightning storms can be amazing to watch, but they are very dangerous. If possible get indoors, but be sure to stay away from windows, doors, electrical appliances, TV antennas, and plumbing fixtures. If you have to be outside during a lightning storm, keep away from crane booms, towers, metal objects, power and telephone lines, railroad tracks, metal fences, trees, water, boats, and structural steel buildings. **Never** seek shelter under a tree. Work smart and play smart — avoid lightning's favorite targets.

A severe thunderstorm may spawn a tornado with destructive winds that can exceed speeds of 200 miles per hour. Do you know the difference between a tornado watch and a tornado warning? A tornado **watch** means that conditions are right for tornadoes to develop. A tornado **warning** means a tornado has actually been sighted or picked up on radar by the National Weather Service. When a warning has been issued, danger is imminent. Seek shelter immediately — inside if possible. The best locations are the basement or an interior room on the lowest level of the building. If you cannot get inside try to find a low spot, like a ditch or creek, and lie down in it as flat as possible.

Millions of dollars of damage result not only from tornadoes and lightning strikes, but also from other types of severe weather. Heavy rains may cause flooding, mud slides, or flash floods. Hurricanes frequently damage coastal areas, and can reach miles inland. Strong winds can damage structures and equipment, and can blow dust, scrap, and material around the jobsite.

You cannot avoid severe weather or make it go away; you can only try to minimize its impact. Have a plan in place at work and at home so that **everyone** knows what to do and where to go when severe weather strikes.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Keep an eye to the sky and an ear to your radio or television
when severe weather is predicted.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____