

# THUNDERSTORMS

About 10% of the thunderstorms that occur annually in the United States are classified as severe. Even those that are not can still be dangerous. Lightning in particular is a threat, though it may seem that a thunderstorm is miles away.

## Before Thunderstorms Strike

- Cut down dead trees and clear branches from around your house.
- Secure loose outdoor objects such as patio furniture.
- Shutter the windows and secure the doors.

## During a Thunderstorm

- Get or stay inside if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder.
- Do not shower or bathe.

### HOW CLOSE IS THE STORM?

To determine how close a thunderstorm is to you, count the seconds between the lightning flash and the next rumble of thunder. Divide that number by five. The answer is the number of miles away the storm is.

