

ALWAYS READY FOR: THUNDERSTORMS & LIGHTNING



A thunderstorm is considered severe if it produces hail at least 1 inch in diameter or has wind gusts of at least 58 miles per hour. Every thunderstorm produces lightning, which kills more people each year than tornadoes or hurricanes. Heavy rain from thunderstorms can cause flash flooding, and high winds can damage homes and blow down trees and utility poles, causing widespread power outages.



Damaging winds exceed 50-60mph and can blow debris around and uproot trees.



Lightning can cause power outages, start fires, and strikes hundreds each year.



Tornados can spin at speeds over 200mph, pick up cars, and blow out windows and doors.

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL (MRGL)	2 - SLIGHT (SLGT)	3 - ENHANCED (ENH)	4 - MODERATE (MDT)	5 - HIGH (HIGH)
No severe* thunderstorms expected	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered severe storms possible	Numerous severe storms possible	Widespread severe storms likely	Widespread severe storms expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with all thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense

Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories
Source: National Weather Service

THUNDERSTORM & LIGHTNING SAFETY



Severe Thunderstorm Watch -

Severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. Stay informed and be ready to act if a severe thunderstorm warning is issued.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning -

Severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property.

BEFORE THE STORM

- ✓ Monitor the weather
- ✓ Sign up for emergency notifications
- ✓ Prepare your home by trimming trees and move loose or valuable objects inside

DURING THE STORM

- ✓ Go to your secure location if you hear of a storm warning
- ✓ If you are in your vehicle stay inside your vehicle

AFTER THE STORM

- ✓ Stay informed of weather and information from public officials
- ✓ Assess any damages
- ✓ Help your neighbor



AURORA EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY