In the first quarter of 2017 alone, thunderstorms caused a record $5.7 billion in losses, and lightning kills an average of 30 people a year. Learn how to keep you, your family, and property safe from lightning.

**LIGHTNING IS DEADLY**

- **22,600** An average of 22,600 fires were caused by lightning between 2007 and 2011.
- **30** people die a year from lightning strikes according to the National Weather Service.

**LIGHTNING IS FAR REACHING**

- **1/3** of all lightning related injuries occur indoors – stay away from:
  - Corded phones
  - Electronics
  - Plumbing

Lightning can strike **10 miles** from a thunderstorm.

**LIGHTNING PROTECTION**

Power surges caused by lightning can damage the electronics in your home.

- Lightning protection systems intercept lightning strikes and provide a grounding path for dangerous electricity to discharge safely, leaving occupants and homes safe from harm.
- Panel box surge protective devices (SPDs) serve as the first line of defense against harmful home electrical surges, limiting voltages by diverting currents at the electrical service entrance. Only a qualified electrician should install SPDs.

Point-of-use surge protective devices protect electronics plugged into the device from surges, must be replaced over time or after a major surge event.

Power strips **DO NOT** provide surge protection.

No surge device can handle a direct lightning strike. Unplug sensitive electronics **WELL** before a storm to prevent damage.