

# Thunderstorms/Lightning

Did you know that the average annual death toll for lightning is higher than for tornados or hurricanes? The Environmental Science Administration estimates that there are some 1,800 thunderstorms over the earth's surface at a given time and that lightning strikes the earth 100 times each second. Voltages required to jump the gap between the earth's surface and a cloud formation can be upwards of 100 million volts. A lightning strike may have peaks of current exceeding 200,000 amperes. Persons struck by lightning can receive both severe electrical shock and burns. Generally lightning will strike the tallest objects in the vicinity first. Therefore, it is important, if caught outside in an electrical storm, to avoid being next to tall poles or trees or making oneself the tallest object, such as is the case when in a boat on a lake or out on a golf course.



MGCSA PRESIDENT JOE MORIS shows good form chipping onto the green.

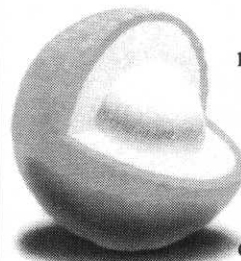
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