

Sandwich Public Library District

Lightning Detection Policy

Approved September 13, 2016



I. INTRODUCTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF ACT

The **SANDWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT** has created this policy to outline how the Library District will specifically address the safety issues associated with lightning and severe storms. Lightning kills and heeding the alerts could be a matter of life or death.

II. PROCEDURES FOR LIGHTNING AND SEVERE STORM

All Library users have an obligation to comply with this policy and the alerts by immediately vacating the open areas and seeking shelter. This includes adults and youth.

At this time, there is a horn and strobe at the Fox Valley YMCA West, adjacent to the Library. The Weather Bug™ Lightning Detection System monitors lightning, (set to within a ten mile radius) and the system monitors overall weather conditions.

When the system detects lightning within 10 miles or less, the HORN sounds for fifteen (15) seconds and the strobe lights announcing that there is lightning present within 10 miles. Everyone **MUST** exit the open areas and seek shelter either in the Library building or vehicle. The strobe light will continue from initial warning until all clear.

The system counts down from 30 minutes until sounding the "all clear". If lightning **IS NOT** present after 30 minutes the open areas may be used again. The system's horn blasts three (3) five (5) second alerts. That means it's **ALL CLEAR** and it is safe to resume using the outdoor facilities.

Continue monitoring the weather. Remember, it may take longer than 30 minutes to reach an "all clear", or the open area facilities may remain closed indefinitely and the event may be cancelled. The strobe light will continue from initial warning until all clear; if the strobe is on, continue to remain sheltered.

III. ROUTINE INSPECTIONS BY THE SANDWICH PARK DISTRICT

It is the understanding of the Sandwich Public Library District that the Sandwich Park District shall routinely inspect all LDS's that the District has installed or placed onto its property or shared property to verify that they are working properly secured and document such inspection in writing at each location. At this time the locations that have Lightning Detection Systems available are Knights Park, Milestone Park (Prairie View School) and Sandwich High School Concession Stand, with an additional location at the Fox Valley YMCA West.

A copy of this Policy shall be provided to all Organizations using the Property for activities including rentals. Each organization will be responsible to abide by this policy or forfeit the ability to use Sandwich Public Library District property.

This Policy shall not create any new liability or increase any existing liability of the Sandwich Public Library District, or any of its officers, employees, or agents, which exists under any other law, including but not limited to the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, 745 ILCS 10/1-101 *et seq.* Nor shall this Policy alter, diminish, restrict, cancel, or waive any defense or immunity of the Sandwich Public Library District or any of its officers, employees, or agents, which exists under any other law, including but not limited to the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, 745 ILCS 10/1-101 *et seq.*

This Policy may be amended and revised by the District at any time.