

THORGUARD LIGHTNING PREDICTION AND WARNING SYSTEM

OPAA has installed a state of the art Lightning Prediction and Warning System. This system, manufactured by ThorGuard, Inc., is comprised of a detection system, warning horn, and strobe light. Located at our equipment shed, it measures the negative electrostatic charges at ground level and the positive charges in the air. These charges always build prior to a lightning strike. When conditions indicate that lightning is 30% probable within 6 miles of Ocee Park, the horn blasts for 15 seconds as a warning to clear the fields, dugouts, and open areas and to seek shelter. Ninety-seven percent of the time when the alarm system is activated, lightning is visible within 15 to 30 minutes. For more technical information about this system, visit their website, www.thorguard.com.

OPAA LIGHTNING PREDICTION ALERT PROCEDURES

- Warning Horn will blast for 15 seconds when a potentially dangerous lightning situation is approaching.
- The yellow strobe light atop the equipment shed will continue to flash while there is still potential for a lightning strike.
- Clear the fields, dugouts, and open areas immediately and seek proper shelter (inside a building or automobile). Do not seek shelter within dugouts or near tall objects such as field lights, fences, trees, etc.
- Wait for the All Clear (3 short horn blasts).
- If after 30 minutes the All Clear has not sounded, the game or practice is ended.
- Lead by example. All adults should also clear the fields and seek shelter.
- System operates seven days per week from 8:00 am to 11:30 pm.