

# **AQUATIC EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

## **WEATHER EMERGENCIES**

### **THUNDERSTORMS**

DON'T PANIC! Counselors are to stay with the campers whenever there is a storm. The designated fallout shelters are (1) the basement of the winterized lodge and (2) the boys' side of the shower house. The boys' bathroom is built into a hill and will provide adequate protection from the elements. Counselors will keep campers in their cabins or the lodge until the Director or Assistant Director indicates it is time to move. Cabins will be directed accordingly to the shelter. If time does not permit getting to the shelter, counselors are to use their best judgment. Stay calm. NEVER ALARM THE CAMPERS.

A Thunderstorm Watch is issued by the National Weather Service when atmospheric conditions are such that storms may develop in certain areas. When a watch is issued, counselors will be notified.

A Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued when strong storms have been sighted or picked up on radar by the National Weather Service. If a warning is issued, the air horn will sound in blasts of three. Calmly take campers immediately to a storm shelter. Do not leave the shelter until you receive an all-clear signal. Take a head count and be prepared to report your count to the Assistant Camp Director.

### **LIGHTNING**

Lightning causes more deaths than any other weather hazard, so remember these rules.

If lightning threatens when you are inside:

1. Stay inside.
2. Stay away from open doors or windows, radiators, metal pipes and sinks. Avoid plug-in electrical objects such as radios, electric typewriters, lamps, etc.
3. Do not plug in electrical equipment.
4. Do not use the telephone; lightning may strike the telephone lines outside.

If lightning threatens when you are outside:

1. Seek shelter in a building. If no buildings are available, seek shelter in a ditch or ravine.
2. Avoid the highest object in the area and avoid being the highest object yourself. If only isolated trees are nearby, crouch or lie in the open, keeping at least as far away from isolated trees as they are high.
3. Get rid of anything metal that you are wearing or carrying.
4. If you feel an electrical charge, such as hair standing on end or tingling skin, lightning may be about to strike. Drop to your knees and bend forward, putting your hands on your knees.

NOTE: Persons struck by lightning receive a severe electrical shock and may be burned. They carry no electrical charge and can be safely handled. A person struck by lightning can often be revived by prompt CPR.

## **TORNADOES**

Air horn blasts in groups of three mean there is an emergency. Listen for instructions.

A Tornado Watch is issued by the National Weather Service when atmospheric conditions are such that tornadoes might develop in certain areas. When a watch is issued, counselors will be notified.

A Tornado Warning is issued when a tornado has been sighted or picked up on radar by the National Weather Service. If a warning is issued, the air horn will sound in blasts of three. Take campers immediately to a storm shelter. Do not leave the shelter until you receive an all-clear signal.

Take a flashlight and battery-operated radio to the shelter (basement of the winterized lodge or boys' rest room in the shower house). Electric power may fail and an emergency light will be helpful. Your local radio station will keep you informed of storm conditions.

During any emergency the loudspeaker will be used. Listen and respond immediately.