Lightning Prediction System

How It Works

- Sensors measure and analyze the electrostatic field in the atmosphere
- When the threat of lightning is sensed, the system continuously updates data about energy in the air 50 times per second to see if the storm is still active
- Coverage area is a radius of 2.5 miles
- 97% accurate within a 2-mile radius
- Predicts the possible occurrence of lightning 8-20 minutes before it could potentially strike
- System operates seven days per week, from 8 a.m. – 11 p.m. in the months of March-November

Lightning Alarm Signal

- Warning horn will sound with an uninterrupted 15-second blast and a strobe light will turn on when there is the potential for a lightning strike within the coverage area
- Upon hearing this signal, park users must leave the park and seek appropriate shelter

All Clear Signal

- When the system senses that conditions are safe, the horn will sound three short 4-second blasts and the strobe light will turn off
- This horn signals that normal activity may resume

The system is located at these following parks:

- Eldridge Park
- Butterfield Park
- Plunkett Park
- Berens Park
- Sugar Creek Golf Club

Be Safe, Take Precautions

- Signal horns may not be at your site, but at a site within earshot. If you hear the alarm, please leave the park.
- Groups/athletic organizations that are at a park without the lightning prediction system should continue to follow the organization's rules regarding inclement weather.
- If the weather appears to be threatening and no alarm is heard, please leave the park.

For any questions regarding the lightning prediction system and the appropriate procedures, please call the Elmhurst Park District at (630) 993-8900.

Elmhurst Park District