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**Melissa Velez-Morales**

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**From:** Masser, Michelle  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2016 4:24 PM  
**To:** Melissa Velez-Morales  
**Subject:** FW: Early Warning Lightning Detection System at Turkey Brook Park  
**Attachments:** Early Warning Lightning Detection System press release.docx; Lighting Detection Early Warning System Video.mp4

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**From:** Brett, Lisa  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2016 4:00 PM  
**To:** Mount Olive Township Council <[motcouncil@mtolivetwp.org](mailto:motcouncil@mtolivetwp.org)>; Mount Olive Township and Police <[MountOliveTownshipAll@mtolivetwp.org](mailto:MountOliveTownshipAll@mtolivetwp.org)>  
**Subject:** Early Warning Lightning Detection System at Turkey Brook Park

Good afternoon Everyone,  
Please see attachments and feel free to share to ALL  
I have posted this information on the Mayors facebook . Recreation has also posted on their page as well. Information has been sent to the sporting groups, newspapers and radio.  
Feel free to share and be safe !  
Lisa

Lisa Brett  
**Lisa Brett**  
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## Early Warning Lightning Detection System

New at Turkey Brook Park – Strike Guard Early Warning Lightning Detection System has just been installed at the center of the park, by Mt. Playmore and the Pirates' Cove Splashpad. This system will monitor an area in a 20 mile radius, for both cloud to cloud lightning and cloud to ground lightning. The system is active now.

The new Strike Guard Early Warning Lightning Detection system has 3 warning modes:

**Strobe Flash (warning) mode:** lightning is within 20 miles

**Caution mode:** lightning is within 10 miles

**Alarm mode:** lightning is within 5 miles

When a lightning event occurs within 20 miles of the Strike Guard sensor locations, a radio signal is automatically sent to the remote siren. This very loud, audible alarm will notify park users, that lightning is within a 20 mile radius, by sounding a high pitched siren (similar to a police siren in Europe) for 15 seconds while simultaneously illuminating a white strobe light that will remain on the entire time lightning is within the alarm mode.

When the lightning threat has passed after 30 minutes from the last lightning event in the alarm mode, the remote siren will sound again. This time with a deeper pitch (similar to a fog horn) and the strobe light will turn off signaling all clear. At this time it is safe to resume normal scheduled activities.

When the alarm mode siren is activated (high pitch) and the strobe light is on. All activities must be suspended and the areas cleared. If upon arrival at the park, the strobe light is on, do not start activities until the all clear signal has been issued.

Everyone using Turkey Brook Park will benefit from this early warning system. According to Accuweather.com, more people die or are injured annually by lightning than any other weather hazard. Almost all injuries occur when people are outside. Worldwide, 16 million lightning storms occur every year, and kill roughly 10,000 people and injure 100,000 around the world. Lightning is the world's most underrated weather hazard. It's also the most unpredictable.

"Lightning is the first thunderstorm hazard to arrive and the last to leave," according to the U.S. National Weather Service. Lightning can actually strike outside the storm that produced it. Although most lightning will strike within 10 miles of its parent thunderstorm, it can strike much farther away. (<http://environment.about.com/od/environmentalevents/f/Why-is-Lightning-Dangerous.htm>)

Thunder can be heard about 25 miles away as a low rumble. That is the best time to wrap up your outdoor activities and seek safe shelter. "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors". Safe locations include grounded buildings (not open sided structures, or public restrooms) or your car. While in your car, keep your hands in your lap, not touching the metal frame of the car, and windows need to be rolled up. Stay away from metal, pipes/plumbing, water, trees, corded phones and electrical devices. All these can conduct electricity from nearby lightning.

***The Mt. Olive Recreation Department Thunder policy is: At the first sounding of thunder, end outdoor activities and immediately seek safe shelter, until at least 30 minutes after the last visible sign of the storm has passed.***

“The first line of defense to prevent being struck in an unexpected storm, is to not let a storm be unexpected. You should always check the weather forecast before you engage in an outdoor activity or plan to spend a good deal of time outside. Coaches and game officials should always err on the side of caution and reschedule a game if there are good chances for a thunderstorm, unless there is a secure, grounded building right next to the field. Even then, at the very first sound of thunder the game should be put on hold and everyone should move inside or to their vehicles.” By Mark Leberfinger, AccuWeather.com Staff Writer

The safety of our park users is always our utmost concern. This new addition to our park will take the guess work out of deciding when to seek safe shelter when lighting is in the area. We want everyone to stay safe and have fun!