

# Emergency Procedures

Please read the **thunderstorm and lightening procedures** on the next page carefully. Leaders should remind families to have an emergency plan. As you can see in the Chain of Command, tent superintendents will be called upon to help relay information to the members and the public in your tents. FAIR OFFICIAL name badges will be available at the 4-H Center before the Fair. All tent superintendents, division chairs and Fair committee chairs are asked to wear them whenever you are on the Fairgrounds. This will enable visitors and 4-H families to identify people that can answer questions or give directions. In the event of an emergency, a badge will give authority to your directions. Thank you for helping to make these emergency procedures work smoothly.

## **FAIR CLOSING**

The Fair Manager liaison to the Park Rangers and Somerset County Park Commission will decide whether or not to close the Fair, based on the severity of the weather and the condition of the parking lots. They will notify the chain of command. ***Emergency Text Alerts for Fair: Text the words: follow 4HAlerts to the number 40404.***

If the Fair is closed:

1. The Public Address Announcer will make an announcement from the information tent
2. Buses will not bring people to the Fair and all parking lots on the Fairgrounds will be closed.
3. Buses will take people to RVCC and the 4-H Center or stay on the grounds to be used as shelters
4. The Drop Off points will continue to operate, but only to pick up people leaving
5. The 4-H Center driveway will only be used as a drop off/pick up.
6. A law enforcement officer will direct traffic at the 4-H Center. Parking will be extremely limited.

## **FAIR REOPENING**

The Fair will reopen only when The Fair Manager liaison to the Park Rangers and Somerset County Park staff agree and pass the word along. Parking lots may or may not open immediately.

# 2015 4-H Fair Chain of Command in Case of Emergency

- ✍ Mike Amorosa- Fair Manager Liaison to the Park Rangers, OEM and Joe Bakes - Public Address Announcer
- ✍ Mike Pappas- Fair Manager Liaison to Bus Company, County Transportation and Joanne Vuoso, Public Information Officer
- ✍ Walker Graham- Fair Manager Liaison to Kimberly Cook, Commercial Chair, Jeff Taylor, First Aid
- ✍ Joe Schreve- Fair Manager Liaison to Ernie Hall, Logistics
- ✍ Abner Mathews- Fair Manager Liaison to Jeff Weinstein, Food Tent Chair and Betty Sommerville, Entertainment Chair
- ✍ Barbara Navatto- 4-H Staff Liaison to the 4-H Office.

4-H Office will notify the Association Executive Committee, Buildings and Grounds and some County Departments

4-H Staff, with the help of tent superintendents, will inform divisions and tents.

- ✍ Carol Ward - Sheep, Goats, Dairy, Beef, Show Tent
- ✍ Lisa Rothenburger - Herpetology, Dogs, Poultry, Horse, Go-Kart (via radio)
- ✍ Rachel Bijaczyk - Arts, Science, Small Animal, RC Car, Mechanical Science
- ✍ Lisa Darby - Prep/Cloverbud, Ice Cream, Cotton Candy, Italian Ice
- ✍ Theresa Hanntz - Board of Ag, Alpaca, Trains
- ✍ Bryn Keck - Day Camps

# THUNDERSTORM AND LIGHTNING PROCEDURE

## Somerset County 4-H Fair

All 4-H families and Fair volunteers should have a plan for inclement weather, including a means of communication and a designated place to meet.

### Severe Thunderstorm Watch (National Weather Service definition)

This is issued by the National Weather Service when conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area. A severe thunderstorm by definition is a thunderstorm that produces 3/4 inch hail or larger in diameter and/or winds equal or exceed 58 miles an hour. The size of the watch can vary depending on the weather situation. They are usually issued for a duration of 4 to 8 hours. They are normally issued well in advance of the actual occurrence of severe weather. During the watch, people should review severe thunderstorm safety rules and be prepared to move a place of safety if threatening weather approaches.

1. When the Somerset County Park Commission Staff or the Fair Manager liaison to the Park Rangers receives a **Thunderstorm Watch** for Somerset County from County Communications or the National Weather Service they will contact Fair Managers and all Rangers, P.C. stage manager, P.C. maintenance, and Bridgewater Township Police Department Officer via radio about the situation.
2. Fair Managers and 4-H Staff will be responsible for informing their assigned areas and fair personnel.
3. The Public Address Announcer will then periodically inform the public about what to do when a thunderstorm approaches.
4. Roving Ranger staff and 4-H Volunteers will inform vendors and people conducting activities about the situation.
5. SCPC staff and Sheriff's Officers at the drop off point should prepare for bad weather and the possibility of park visitors leaving the area, i.e. assisting with traffic control at a last moments notice. Drop Off Points will remain operational.

### Severe Thunderstorm Warning (National Weather Service definition)

This is issued when either a severe thunderstorm is indicated by the WSR-88D radar or a spotter reports a thunderstorm producing hail 3/4 inch or larger in diameter and/or winds equal or exceed 58 miles an hour; therefore, people in the affected area should seek safe shelter immediately. Severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes with little or no advance warning. Lightning frequency is not a criteria for issuing a severe thunderstorm warning. They are usually issued for a duration of one hour. They can be issued without a Severe Thunderstorm Watch being already in effect.

1. When the Somerset County Park Commission or the Fair Manager liaison to the Park Rangers receives a Thunderstorm Warning for Somerset County or a thunderstorm is seen heading towards North Branch Park, all the above parties will be informed.
2. The Public Address Announcer will announce that 4-H'ers, volunteers and the public should immediately seek shelter and take appropriate precautions.
3. All activities on the fairgrounds are to cease immediately.
4. SCPC staff, Fair Managers, 4-H Staff, and Roving Rangers, will inform public and 4-H families on the grounds to seek shelter immediately.
5. Fair attendees that have vehicles on site should retreat to their cars. All others should seek shelter in a shuttle bus or the 4-H Center. **DO NOT STAY IN A TENT.** (This is a change from what was previously stated. Your cooperation is appreciated)
6. Buses will take people to RVCC and the 4-H Center or stay on the grounds to be used as shelters.
7. All staff and volunteers should seek shelter themselves.