

When to Seek Shelter / Suspend Activities

The “Flash-To-Bang” theory measures the time from when you see lightning to the time you hear the associated thunder. A measure of 5 seconds from Flash-To-Bang means lightning is one mile away. Ten seconds equals 2 miles; 15 seconds equals 3 miles, etc. When the Flash-to-Bang count is 30 seconds, it’s time to seek safe shelter. However, you should be aware of its pitfall. It is sometimes hard to associate the proper clap of thunder to the corresponding flash.

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