OTHER SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS
THUNDERSTORMS, LIGHTNING, FLOODING.

What should I know about thunderstorms?
- Thunderstorms along the coastal region of Florida average 80 to 90 days per year.
- Florida thunderstorm can produce four or more inches of rain in less than an hour in one location
- Lightning, tornadoes, downbursts, hail and flooding are all dangerous by-products of thunderstorms.

It is necessary to monitor the NOAA weather radio stations during the warm thunderstorm season and plan work and activities around any threatening weather conditions.

What should I do during a thunderstorm?
- GO TO A SMALL INTERIOR ROOM on the lowest floor of the building In a severe thunderstorm. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- AVOID windows.
- AVOID driving into severe thunderstorms. Pull off the road.

What should I know about lightning?
- Florida is the most lightning prone area in the United States.
- Lightning kills more people annually than all other weather hazards combined.
- Lightning strikes usually occur close to the rain area and are negatively charged.
- The most dangerous lightning is the positively charged ground strike that can occur many miles from the rain area where people are not aware of the lightning danger.

What should I do when I see lightning?
- SEEK SHELTER in a fully enclosed building or car.
- STAY AWAY from doors, windows and electrical appliances.
- STAY OFF the phone.
- AVOID water, high ground, open spaces, metal objects and contact with other people, if outdoors.

OBSERVE THE 30-30 Rule
30 SECONDS Count the seconds between seeing the lightning and hearing the thunder. If the time is 30 seconds or less then the lightning is close enough to be a threat. Seek shelter immediately!
30 MINUTES After seeing the last lightning flash wait 30 minutes before leaving the shelter. Fifty percent of the lightning deaths occur after the storm has passed.

What should I know about outdoor flooding?
- Urban flash floods often occur in less than one hour.
- Due to the relatively flat terrain across Florida, it is much more difficult to drain accumulated water.
- In flood areas, it is difficult to judge water depth.
- Water only inches deep can be next to water that is several feet deep.
- As little as one foot of water can move most cars off the road. Just six inches of fast-moving water can sweep a person off his or her feet.

What should I do if I encounter flooding?
- BE AWARE of streams, drainage canals and areas known to flood.
- DO NOT drive through the water if you cannot see the road or its line markings.
- DO NOT allow children to play in flooded areas.
- STAY AWAY from downed power lines.

Contact EH&S at 561-297-3129 or e-mail at ehs@fau.edu with any comments or concerns about hurricanes, tornadoes or other severe weather conditions or assistance in developing your specific plan.