

Howard County  
Department of Recreation & Parks

## ***NEW! LIGHTNING ALERTING SYSTEM***

For the safety of its visitors the Department of Recreation & Parks has installed lightning alerting systems in the following parks:

1. Blandair Park
2. Troy Park
3. Cedar Lane Park
4. Rockburn Branch Park
5. Western Regional Park
6. Schooley Mill Park

### **Operation:**

Each system is equipped with a horn and strobe light. The horn and strobe light will activate for 15-seconds once it senses lightning 10-miles from the park. At this time all activities, including games and practices will cease, allowing park visitors to seek shelter.

Once lightning is no longer a threat the horn will sound in three, 5-second bursts and activities, games and practices can resume.

### **Sheltering:**

A safe shelter is a building with a roof and four walls such as the restrooms. Sheltering in a vehicle is another option but it is not as safe as a solid structure. **DO NOT** take shelter under a picnic pavilion as it does not provide protection against lightning.

### **Future Sites:**

Lightning alerting systems at Savage Park and Centennial Park will be activated by fall of 2021.

3/10/2021