

# FLASH

cards



FLASH CARDS

*Strengthening Homes  
and Safeguarding Families*



**FEDERAL ALLIANCE FOR SAFE HOMES**

[www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org)

# Lightning

Electrical surges from lightning can destroy electronic devices in your house, but this damage can be lessened or prevented by installing a system of surge protection that consists of point-of-use devices and a whole house surge device.

## Surge Protective Devices (SPD)

- These systems protect electronic and electrical appliances from all but the most severe electrical surges or direct strikes.
- They should be installed at all items to be protected.
- A good electrical grounding system is essential.

## Lightning Protection Systems\*

- The systems provide a direct path for lightning to follow to the ground rather than through the house structure and its wiring.
- Consult a qualified contractor for installation.

\*Please note: a lightning protection system will not protect a home from electrical damage or fire from lightning entering through the telephone, cable or electrical lines to the house. Whole house surge protection devices are needed for this protection.

## Whole House Surge Protection

- A whole house surge protection system can be installed on the electric meter or the electrical panel to help protect the appliances and electronic equipment in your house such as computers, TVs and VCRs.
- Contact your local electric company for installation information. If your utility company doesn't offer the service, a qualified electrician can install this device at your electrical panel.



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