

## DID YOU KNOW?

 A bolt of lightning carries between 100 million and 1 billion volts of electricity!

 Air surrounding a bolt of lightning is instantaneously heated to a temperature of 50,000°F - over 5 times hotter than the surface of the sun!

 Lightning causes more deaths on average annually than tornadoes or hurricanes!

 Wyoming ranks 2nd in the nation in lightning deaths per capita!

 Lightning struck a boat on Jackson Lake in Grand Teton National Park blasting a hole in the boat injuring five people!

**WHEN THUNDER ROARS...  
HEAD TO SHORE!**

## CONTACT US!

### Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Phone: 307-777-4600

Website: <http://gf.state.wy.us>

### National Weather Service - Riverton

Toll Free: 800-211-1448

Phone: 307-857-3898

Website: <http://www.weather.gov/riverton>

### National Weather Service - Cheyenne

Phone: 307-772-2468

Website: <http://www.weather.gov/cheyenne>

Get the latest weather forecasts and advisories on your mobile phone at:  
<http://mobile.weather.gov>

### All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio Wyoming Frequencies

<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Afton	162.425	Kemmerer	162.525
Casper	162.400	Lander	162.475
Cheyenne	162.550	Lead, SD	162.525
Cody	162.400	Mammoth	162.425
Dubois	162.450	Newcastle	162.475
Evanston	162.450	Pinedale	162.500
Gillette	162.500	Rawlins	162.425
Glendo	162.450	Rock Springs	162.550
Grant Village	162.450	Sheridan	162.475
Jackson	162.525	Thermopolis	162.500
Kaycee	162.550	Worland	162.525

# Lightning Safety for Boaters

## Guidelines and tips for boating safely



Wyoming Game & Fish Department  
and the United States Coast Guard  
are Partners in Watercraft Safety.

# WYOMING WATERS SECOND TO NONE!



Whether it be boating, fishing, water skiing, or any other aquatic activity, there's no better place than the beautiful lakes and rivers of Wyoming to enjoy getting out on the water.

However, along with enjoying the great outdoors comes an increased risk of being struck by lightning should the weather take a turn for the worse - especially if you're on the water when storms roll in.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the National Weather Service (NWS) want to help you understand these risks and provide some guidelines and tips to help keep you safe on Wyoming's waters.

[www.nws.noaa.gov/safeboating](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/safeboating)

## BE PREPARED...

Before you head out on the water, take the time to get up to speed on the weather forecast for the day. Knowing what to expect weather-wise will have you better prepared to have a great time on the lakes and rivers.

If you are on the water during a lightning storm, you run an especially high risk of being struck. Gusty wind from nearby thunderstorms can capsize boats in an instant. Have a plan in place should weather conditions start to deteriorate. Remember, when thunder roars, head to shore!

You can get the latest weather forecasts, advisories, and warnings via All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio (see reverse), or the NWS website at: [www.weather.gov/riverton](http://www.weather.gov/riverton).

### ...WARNING...WARNING...

Severe weather can develop quickly in Wyoming. The National Weather Service will do their best to keep you informed of weather hazards by issuing Watches and Warnings.

**WATCH:** Conditions are favorable for the development of severe weather conditions. Watch the sky and remain alert to swift changes in the weather.

**WARNING:** Severe weather conditions are imminent or occurring. Take immediate action to protect yourself.

## STAY SAFE ON THE WATER

Should thunderstorms approach while you're on the water, stay safe with these tips.

- Get to shore immediately! If you are on the water when a storm approaches, you are the tallest object between the shorelines, and the favored target for a lightning strike.
- Once ashore, find shelter. Seek shelter in a sturdy building with four walls. Neither tents nor metal canopies provide adequate protection from lightning.
- If you must ride out the storm on the water, drop anchor where you are. Point the bow of the boat into the wind.
- Get inside the cabin, away from electronics and metals. If your boat does not have a cabin, get as low as you can.
- ALWAYS wear your life jacket! Should lightning damage your boat, your life jacket will help you stay safe in the water.
- Call for medical help immediately if someone is struck! Often lightning strike victims are not dead. Their hearts may have just stopped beating. Administer CPR immediately. Someone who has been struck by lightning does not carry any electrical charge, so it's perfectly safe to touch someone who's been struck.



Photo courtesy of Wyoming Travel and Tourism