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**Towns County Schools**

**Middle and High**

**Lightning Safety Guidelines For Outdoor Extracurricular Activities**

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) requires lightning detectors at all outdoor athletic activities. Towns County Schools have set forth a guideline and policy for lightning safety for all outdoor extracurricular activities.

The following policy is followed by Towns County Schools and Coaching Staff during outdoor extracurricular activities:

* An approved Lightning Detector will be used at all outdoor extracurricular activities.
* During games, the game manager/administrator will be responsible for lightning detectors.
* During practice, the head coach will be responsible for lightning detectors.
* When a lightning detector indicates a dangerous situation where lightning has been detected in the 3-8 mile range or lightning has been spotted, the head coach/game manager will suspend practice/game and all participants will go to a place of safety. Officials will also suspend play if lightning is spotted.

**When to resume** game/practice/activity will be determined by:

* Officials/Game Manager/Administrator using NFHS guidelines if the event is a game.
* Head Coach at practices if:

 a. Lightning detectors have not detected lightning for thirty minutes and

 b. No thunder has been heard for thirty minutes.

\*\*All individuals have the right to leave an athletic site in order to seek a safe structure if the person feels in danger of impending lightning activity without fear of repercussions or penalty from anyone.