Dan Beard Council’s Storm and Lightning Procedures for its camp operations are highlighted below. Please ensure this information is distributed within your units when attending any Dan Beard Camps.

You may also want to adopt and modify these procedures as appropriate to ensure safety in any other outdoor activities in which your units participate.

1. In all circumstances, safety comes first. No programs or activities will be run when there is a threat of lightning.

2. When inclement weather approaches or there is a threat of lightning, all campers, staff, and leaders are immediately ushered under the closest weather-safe shelter and removed from open areas. Aquatics areas are closed if there is an alert of an incoming storm or if thunder is audible.

3. Every camp has designed emergency procedures that are communicated to the staff, the leaders in attendance, posted in pre-camp materials including Leader's Guides and Staff Manuals, and posted in every major program area of camp.

4. As per the BSA camp accreditation practices, all camp staff are thoroughly trained and drilled with emergency procedures.

5. Significant funds have been used towards ensuring all the technology we need is available to alert of incoming weather. This includes strategically placed weather radios, computers with access to Doppler radar, and TVs in central locations to watch weather alerts.

6. Camp Friedlander uses a siren system to alert all campers, leaders, and staff of emergencies. Cub World and Day Camps use airhorn systems that can be heard throughout the activity areas.

I have personally experienced many lightning storms at camp, have seen these procedures in operation, and feel we are doing an excellent job of ensuring the safety of our campers. Please let me know if you have any questions about these or any other of our emergency procedures.

Thanks,

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