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SEVERE WEATHER & LIGHTNING PLAN

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to establish clear guidelines for the Gallant Builders job sites in regard to the lightning policy for all employees working inside the designated area for Shelter in place procedures.

II. SCOPE

This procedure applies to all Gallant Builders employees, contractors, subcontractors and visitors associated with our projects.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

The following personnel have the responsibilities defined in this procedure:

1. Gallant Management will insure that the project will provide adequate shelter and monitoring systems for every employee on the project. Monitor and communicate instructions to all supervision on the weather/lightning patterns.
2. Supervisors are responsible for communicating the Lightning Procedure all supervisors and employees working on the project to assure all Employees will follow all site requirements.
3. Contractors follow all site requirements for the project and will communicate requirements to all company employees.
4. Subcontractors will communicate and follow site procedures to all company employees.
5. Visitors shall understand and follow site procedures

IV. PROCEDURE

Project Management shall make every attempt to prevent the possibility of incident and accidents to employees when performing work activities in inclement weather at the project. Gallant Management will monitor and track weather patterns by i.e. (internet radar tracker, lightning meter) to provide the employees with the appropriate protection and communication to properly perform their jobs. Gallant Management will order “Shelter in Place” then communicate to the supervisors over their designated areas.

V. SAFE SHELTER REQUIREMENTS

If you are caught outside in a storm, always look for appropriate shelter. Do not take any chances -- lightning can use you as a path to the earth just as easily as it can use any other object. Appropriate shelter would be a building or a car. If you do not have anywhere to go, then you should avoid taking shelter under trees. Trees attract lightning. Put your feet as close together as possible and crouch down with your head as low as possible without touching the ground.

Never lay down on the ground during a lightning storm. After lightning strikes, there is an electric potential that radiates outward from the point of contact. If your body is in this area, current can flow through you. You never want the current to have the ability to pass through your body. This could cause cardiac arrest, not to mention other organ damage and burns. By making your body as low to the ground as possible and minimizing the amount of your body in contact with the ground, you can lower the possibility of a lightning-related injury. If a strike were to occur near you, the current would have a much more difficult time flowing through your body in this position.

VI. LIGHTNING ALERT SYSTEM

A three (3) part Lightning alert system will be utilized on this project. The alert system will be activated based on information and communication gathered from NOAA, Local Weather Service, and Gallant Management. The degree of action to be taken is based on the distance, speed and severity of an approaching weather disturbance. When lightning is detected by (internet radar tracker, lightning meter) all employees shall follow the Project specific guidelines.

PHASE I – LIGHTNING WARNING

8-20 MILES:

Is a warning notifying employee that they shall prepare for lightning approaching project location. i.e. covering material, gathering tools, or any task that may be affected by potential lightning delay. This alert will be issued to the general work force, when a thunderstorm has formed and is within 20 miles of the site.

1. Hazardous Weather/Thunderstorm readings shall be taken by Gallant Management to measure the distance of the thunderstorms. Communication will come from the jobsite management team, to the Construction Supervision and then cascaded down to all Subcontractors on-site.
2. Gallant Management will begin plotting the location and direction of travel of the Thunderstorm.
3. Gallant Management and Subcontractor Superintendents/ Managers will begin planning for employees to cease outdoor activities, safely evacuate the field and take appropriate shelter. Depending on the size, intensity, direction of travel and anticipated duration of the storm, additional planning will begin to allow for adequate time to safely evacuate the site and release employees from scheduled work activities for the remaining portion of the day.

PHASE II- LIGHTNING WARNING

3-8 MILES:

This alert will be issued when active lightning is sighted and detected to be within 3-8 miles and approaching the site. The distance of three to eight (3-8) miles was determined based on the size of the project, number of persons subjected to outside work activities needing to stop all elevated work and all vehicle movement. Limited means of evacuating personnel from the field and time needed to safely evacuate all personnel.

0-3 MILES:

Gallant Management will issue a directive to "Clear the Field" and cease all outdoor work activities when lightning visible is within 0-3 miles. Subcontractor Superintendents/Foremen will take immediate action to safely evacuate all personnel from open, unprotected areas on the site and seek appropriate shelter.

Subcontractor Superintendents/Foremen will determine if their personnel will be required to evacuate the site and release employees from scheduled work activities for the remaining portion of the day. This decision is to be based on anticipated duration of the storm and the safety of their personnel.

PHASE III – POST - LIGHTNING RETURN TO WORK

The Post-Lightning, "All Clear, Return to the Field" direction will be given based upon the distance from the thunderstorm cell and reportable lightning strikes to the site. A twenty (20) minute interval from the last reportable strike, within ten (10) miles of the site, as well as the lightning potential of additional on-coming storm cells will be used to determine when the "All Clear, Return to the Field" direction is released to all site employees.

Gallant Management will notify Subcontractor Superintendents/Foremen that the threat of lightning has diminished to an acceptable level of risk, determined by the criteria above.

Gallant Management will assess the site and conditions to determine the need for additional warnings and/or notifications that may be required and adhered to prior to releasing employees to return to normal work activities.