



401 South Park Avenue • Winter Park, Florida 32789

Communications

Media Inquiries: Stephanie Silva
407-599-3495 • 407-951-4638 cell

PRESS RELEASE

City implements THOR GUARD Lightning Prediction and Warning System

WINTER PARK, FL, (July 2, 2024) The city's Parks & Recreation Department has recently implemented an updated THOR GUARD system in two city locations to further enhance the safety of our community. Thor Guard is designed to detect and, most importantly, predict nearby lightning by measuring the static electricity in the atmosphere. Monitoring how much static energy is building and changing, Thor Guard predicts lightning strikes *before* they occur.

When the lightning warning system predicts lightning strikes in the immediate area, a single 15-second blast of the horn will signal suspension of all outdoor activities. A strobe light will also begin flashing and remain flashing until safe conditions return. The horn and strobe light indicate that everyone should immediately seek an appropriate, safe shelter (buildings, large shelters or automobiles).

When the Thor Guard alarm sounds, city parks in the area will be closed. Parks will reopen and activities may resume only after three, five-second blasts of the horn are sounded and the strobe light stops flashing. The Thor Guard Lightning Prediction and Warning System will be activated seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Updated Thor Guard systems are located in Ward Park and Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, covering the entire city and these systems will cover the entire city. The two systems are labeled '**West Winter Park (195)**,' which includes the Winter Park Community Center and Pool, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, Winter Park Tennis Center, Winter Park Golf Course (WP9), and '**East Winter Park (196)**,' which includes Cady Way Park, Cady Way Pool, Ward Park, Showalter Field and the Winter Park Pines Golf Course (WP18).

Residents and guests can monitor the system and receive notifications on a computer or mobile device by accessing 360.thormobile.net/cityofwinterpark, or downloading the ThorAlert App in the [Apple® Store](#) or [Google® Play](#).

###

cityofwinterpark.org • [Facebook](#) • [X](#) • [Instagram](#) • [Vimeo](#) • [YouTube](#) • [@YourRequest](#)

Certified WCAG 2.1 Level AA compliant and usable with JAWS and NVDA by SWH