

The mission of the Crested Butte Parks and Recreation Department is to provide high quality year-round recreational programming and amenities for the residents and visitors of the Upper East River Valley. Our values include providing access for all, regardless of ability or income; promoting healthy lifestyles; responsible stewardship of public amenities; responsible fiscal management of public funding; enhancing and supporting regional economic vitality; providing opportunities for community connection; enriching quality of life; and emphasizing fair play and sportsmanship at all levels.

Crested Butte Parks and Recreation Lighting Policies and Procedures

Lightning can easily cause serious injury or death. The priority of the Crested Butte Parks and Recreation Department is the safety of all participants, volunteers, coaches, spectators, and staff. In order to best ensure that safety, this policy and set of procedures should always be followed if lightning is present.

In the event of inclement weather, a coach or member of the Parks and Rec department will notify participants and all in attendance, as well as parents/legal guardians if the affected program is youth oriented, that the lightning policy is in effect.

This policy applies to all Crested Butte Parks and Recreation youth and adult programs, including games, practices, and special events.

Lightning Policy:

If lightning is seen, **clear the field/facility**. If thunder is heard, **clear the field/facility**.

At the first instance of lightning or thunder, a coach or an employee of the parks and rec department will notify those present that all play is to be suspended until further notice. The responsible party will note the time of the last lightning strike or sound of thunder in order to safely and accurately follow the return to play procedures.

In the event that lightning is seen or thunder is heard, all those involved or associated with the given program will seek shelter immediately.

Appropriate Locations to Seek Shelter:

- Fully enclosed vehicles with the windows up
- Fully enclosed buildings (avoid seeking shelter within Pavilions)
- The lowest ground in the area, away from standing bodies of water

Do Not Seek Shelter Within or Near the Following:

- Outdoor metal structures such as flag poles, sculptures, bleachers, fences and gates, light poles, etc.
- Vehicles that are not fully enclosed
- Trees, water, open fields, or high ground

Return to Play:

A minimum of 30 minutes must pass from the time of the last visible lightning and/or audible thunder before resuming regularly scheduled programming. After the 30 minute period, players, participants, coaches, volunteers, and anyone else affiliated with the program may return to the field.

If weather remains inclement or shows no signs of improvement then it may become necessary to suspend, postpone, or cancel the program or event until further notice. Notifying those involved in the program of schedule changes will be the responsibility of the coach or the Parks and Rec Department.