**Four struck by lightning in Centurion [South Africa]**

February 21, 2024

<https://www.citizen.co.za/rekord/news-headlines/2024/02/21/four-struck-by-lightning-in-centurion/>

Two people were killed and a further two was reportedly in critical condition after they were struck by lightning on the R55 in Olievenhoutbosch. Four pedestrians were struck by lightning on the R55 in Olievenhoutbosch during the severe Tuesday evening storm. The lightning strike killed two, while the remainder reportedly suffered critical injuries.

[Tshwane emergency services (EMS)](https://www.tshwane.gov.za/?page_id=208) spokesperson Deputy Chief Charles Mabaso confirmed the incident. “Following a thunderstorm in the afternoon yesterday, the services is aware of reports that four people were struck by lightning on the R55 around the Olievenhoutbosch area,” Mabaso told *Rekord*. He said the EMS was not the responding emergency service and urged residents to remain on high alert for weather warnings, especially during thunderstorms.

**Residents should take note of the following safety tips during thunderstorms with severe lightning:**

– Do not seek shelter under trees or any tall objects

– Avoid metal objects

– Avoid open spaces outside and risky behaviours such as sports like golf and fishing

– Avoid being near water

– Immediately get away from elevated ground such as hills, outcroppings, or mountains

– Never lie flat on the ground, crouch down in a ball-like position with your head tucked down and hands over your ears

– A car can be a good shelter, but close all the windows and do not touch any metal part of the vehicle

[**Local paramedic offers tips on what to do to avoid being hit by lightning**](https://www.citizen.co.za/rekord/news-headlines/2021/03/28/local-paramedic-offers-tips-on-what-to-do-to-avoid-being-hit-by-lightning/)

– A person struck by lightning is safe to touch

– Immediately start CPR if the person is not breathing or does not have a pulse

– Seek emergency medical care immediately