



Lightning kills two, three hurt

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Johannesburg - Two people were killed by lightning and three others were taken to hospital in critical condition on Wednesday after being struck in three different areas of the West Rand.

The first lightning strike was at a construction site in Honeydew, where a woman was killed and two others critically injured.

ER24 said the injured women were being treated at Leratong Hospital.

In a separate incident, a man was killed when a tree under which he had taken shelter was struck in Tshepisong near Krugersdorp, said emergency services' Malcolm Midgley.

He said the last incident happened in Discovery.

A 17-year-old boy was struck, also after having taken shelter under a tree.

Warned to avoid trees

"The boy is believed to have had epileptic fits afterwards and was taken to hospital before emergency personnel arrived."

Midgley advised people to stay clear of trees, electrical poles or any other towering objects when there was a thunderstorm.

"Lightning is electricity and it needs the shortest route to earth.

"Some people are not struck directly... lightning can strike an electric pole, causing a charge of electricity in the air, which can then kill people."

