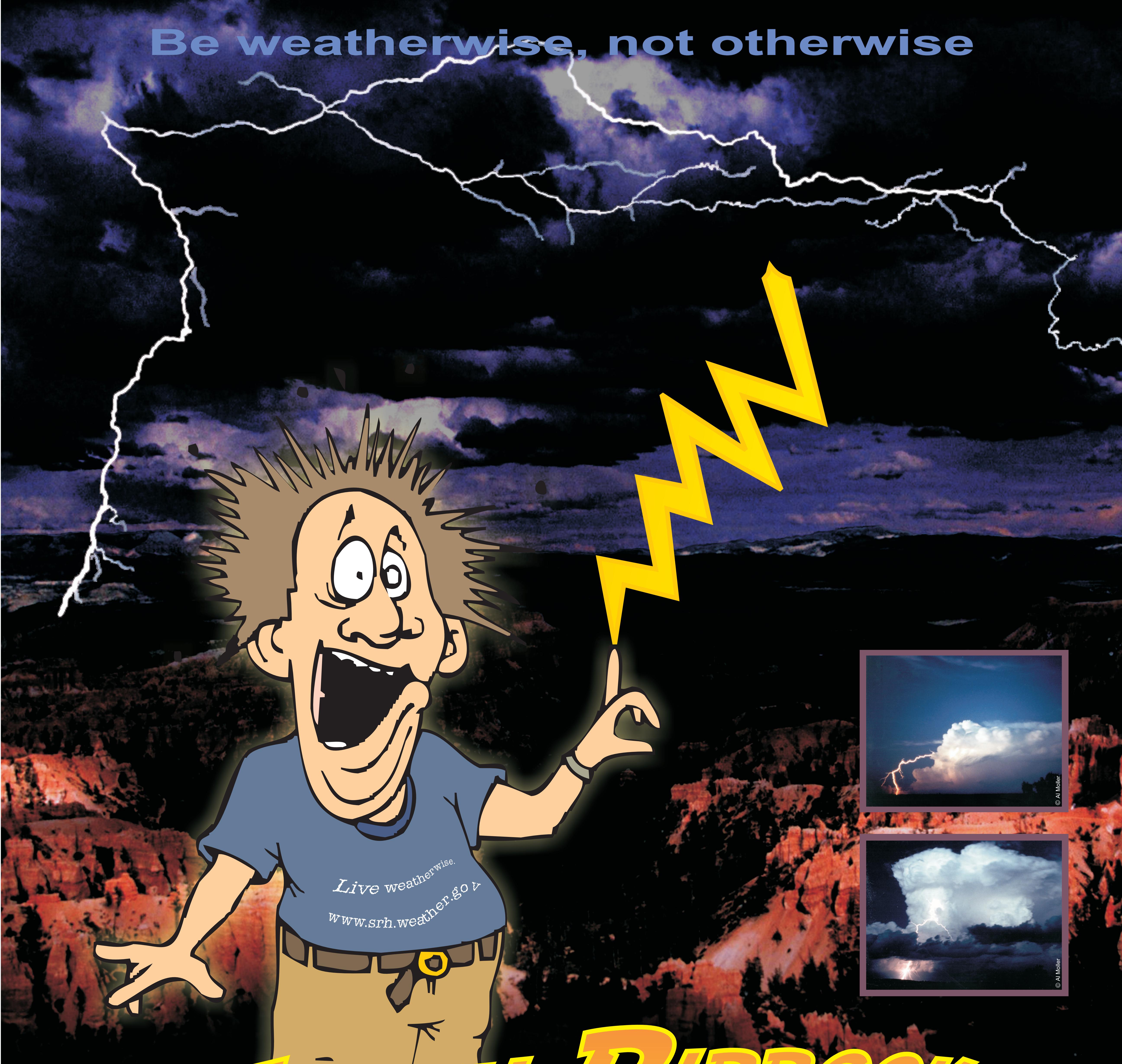


**Be weatherwise, not otherwise**



# **FLASH RIPROCK**

and the

## **Bolt from the Blue**

IF YOU HEAR THUNDER THEN LIGHTNING IS NEAR. FOLLOW THESE SAFETY RULES!

1. GET INSIDE A HOUSE, LARGE SHELTER OR AN ALL-METAL VEHICLE (NOT A CONVERTIBLE).
2. ONLY USE THE TELEPHONE IN AN EMERGENCY.
3. REMAIN CLEAR OF TALL, ISOLATED TREES AND TELEPHONE POLES.
4. STAY AWAY FROM WIRE FENCES, CLOTHESLINES OR METAL PIPES AND RAILS.
5. IF YOU ARE CAUGHT OUTSIDE, AWAY FROM SHELTER, AND YOU FEEL YOUR HAIR STAND ON END, SQUAT DOWN, TUCK YOUR HEAD AS LOW AS YOU CAN, AND COVER YOUR EARS. DO NOT LIE FLAT ON THE GROUND.
6. FOLLOW THE 30/30 RULE: IF YOU HEAR THUNDER 30 SECONDS AFTER SEEING THE FLASH, MOVE INDOORS QUICKLY. STAY INDOORS UNTIL 30 MINUTES AFTER THE LAST THUNDER IS HEARD.

SOME COMMON LIGHTNING MYTHS

- A. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S KITE WAS NEVER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING!
- B. LIGHTNING DOES NOT ALWAYS STRIKE THE TALLEST OBJECT, ONLY THE TALLEST OBJECT IN A PARTICULAR AREA.
- C. LIGHTNING CAN STRIKE ANY OBJECT IN ITS PATH, NOT JUST METAL ONLY.
- D. JUST BECAUSE IT IS NOT RAINING AT YOUR LOCATION AND YOU HEAR THUNDER, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO BE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING. IN FACT, MOST PEOPLE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING EACH YEAR ARE IN RAIN FREE AREAS AROUND THUNDERSTORMS.
- E. RUBBER SOLE SHOES (OR RUBBER TIRES) OFFER NO PROTECTION FROM LIGHTNING BY ACTING AS AN INSULATOR.



National Weather Service Pictures  
A Professor Weather Production



**Coming Sooner**  
than you think

THUNDERING  
**TXL**  
XTRA LOUD

**GP** General Public  
All Ages Affected