



# False Alarm Prevention

## Information for Alarm Users

IT IS EVERYONE'S  
RESPONSIBILITY TO



FALSE ALARMS

Provided as a Public Service by the False Alarm Reduction Association- [www.faraonline.org](http://www.faraonline.org)

## Thunderstorm + Lightning + Power Outage = False Alarm?

The answer is NO!



**Thunderstorms, lightning and power outages do not  
equal false alarms.**

### Consider the following:

- Power surges and lightning strikes **should not** cause false alarms!
- False alarms caused by lightning strikes **are controllable** through the proper grounding of alarm systems and the use of power **AND** phone line surge suppressors.
- Use of surge suppressors greatly reduces false alarms by redirecting and dissipating electrical current to the ground.
- Power outages or interruption of power **should not** cause false alarms!

**In order to avoid costly false alarms that may occur during inclement weather, contact your alarm dealer and follow these simple steps:**

- Repair loose fitting doors and windows.
- Ensure that all alarm contacts are firmly in place.
- Use wide-gap door and window contacts.
- Use surge protectors/suppressors on both the alarm system and the phone line sending the alarm signal to the monitoring center.
- Ensure that the battery back-up protection is in good working order, is fully charged and will hold that charge for a minimum of four hours.
- Ensure that your alarm system is properly grounded.

**REMEMBER . . . Properly designed, installed and maintained alarm systems will not generate false alarm activity (AND FINES) due to power surges or power interruptions!**

**Taking the proper precautions will GREATLY reduce the chances your alarm system will be the cause of false alarms during a storm. However, in the case of a catastrophic lightning strike, the system may malfunction or suffer damage.**