

# Addendum/Follow-up to the Presentation on “Lightning Tips for Villagers,” by Len Hathaway & Bob Freeman, given to TVARC on May 19, 2016

**Subject: Resources to Help You Manage Your Lightning Risk**

**Date:** May 20, 2016 at 9:58:34 AM EDT

Thank you for inviting Bob Freeman and me [Len Hathaway] to present our Power Point presentation, *Lightning Tips for Villagers*, to The Villages Amateur Radio Club, at Eisenhower Regional Recreation Center, on May 19, 2016.

If any of your members are considering a lightning protection system (LPS), commonly called lightning rods, for their homes it is important to select a firm that specializes in this field and has the proper credentials. There are no local, county, or state regulations or oversight and therefore this is a buyer beware marketplace. Fortunately, the industry does police itself through the Lightning Protection Institute (LPI) and Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Here is how to identify a "listed" LPS installer in Florida

- Underwriters Laboratories copy and paste the following into your browser:

[http://database.ul.com/cgi-bin/XYV/cgifind.new/LISINSPECT/1FRAME/srchres.html?collection=/data3/verity\\_collections/lisinspect&vdhome=/data3/verity\\_sw\\_rev24/common&SORT\\_BY=textlines:asc.ccnshorttitle:asc&query=OWAY+%3CIN%3ECCN+](http://database.ul.com/cgi-bin/XYV/cgifind.new/LISINSPECT/1FRAME/srchres.html?collection=/data3/verity_collections/lisinspect&vdhome=/data3/verity_sw_rev24/common&SORT_BY=textlines:asc.ccnshorttitle:asc&query=OWAY+%3CIN%3ECCN+) This brings up all of the UL listed firms in the US. Next select "Refine your search" at the top. This brings up a box and select "Florida" in the drop down menu box followed by "Search" and this will give you about four pages of UL listed installers for the entire state;

- Lightning Protection Institute, <http://www.lightning.org/?page=members&subnav=installers#> in the purple bar top left select "Find Installer" scroll down below the map to "Search" enter "Florida". Select only firms that have installers certified by testing with MID (master installer designer) or MI (master installer).

As a matter of convenience, of the 20 or so "listed" firms found in the above for Florida, three are known to be working in The Villages. They are shown in alphabetical order as we are not recommending any one firm. As discussed, it is advisable to get more than one quote.

A-1 Lightning Protection Services, [866-465-0620](tel:866-465-0620)  
Central Lightning Protection, [407-380-6995](tel:407-380-6995)  
Triangle Lightning Protection, [352-483-7020](tel:352-483-7020).

If any of your members do contact any of those firms, then we would be interested in receiving any positive or negative feedback.

Primary surge protection can be rented or purchased from SECO or installed by a licensed electrician. Secondary [point-of-use] surge protection devices can be purchased at electronic, hardware, and big box stores.

Below is a link to the first nine minutes of PBS's *Ask This Old House* segment on lightning protection that reinforces many of the concepts in our presentation. (The lone exception is that it does not address

secondary (point-of-use) surge protection). The introductory comments are offered by Jim Cantore of The Weather Channel and here is the link:

<http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/tv/ask-toh/video/0,,20915090,00.html>

Watch for our column, *Lightning Matters*, in the Bulletin published by the Property Owners' Association of The Villages, Inc. (POA). POA's link is: <http://poa4us.org>.

For any of your members who may have missed our presentation, we are scheduled to give it through The Villages Lifelong Learning College. For the dates and time, check their catalogue at: <http://www.campusce.net/thevillages/category/category.aspx>.

If your members have any questions, please contact me at [LHATHA@AOL.COM](mailto:LHATHA@AOL.COM) or Bob Freeman at [stalit1@aol.com](mailto:stalit1@aol.com) .

Len Hathaway