

SAFETY DURING A POWER OUTAGE

- If you install an emergency generator, be sure to notify TCEC and have an electrician install a double-throw switch to protect electrical workers from backfeed.
- Keep safe. Never touch a downed wire. Stay away from it, and keep others away, too. Report it immediately to TCEC at 580-652-2418 and consider reporting it to the County Sheriff's office, so an officer can guard the line until help arrives.
- Don't operate lanterns, heaters or fuel-fired cook stoves without adequate ventilation.
- Don't burn charcoal indoors - it releases carbon monoxide.
- Don't store fuel inside your home.
- Wipe up any fuel spills immediately.
- Don't allow children to carry candles or oil lamps around the house.
- Report a power outage at any time to TCEC at 580-652-2418.

Sources: SafeElectricity.org and Electrical Safety Foundation International

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit www.tcec.coop for additional safety tips and resources.

Other helpful websites include:

- Safe Electricity
www.safeelectricity.org
- Safety World for Kids
http://www.safeelectricity.com/esw_v1_2/index.html
- Electrical Safety Foundation
www.esfi.org
- National Safety Council
www.nsc.org

CONTACT US

Tri-County Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 880
Hooker, OK 73945

Office Hours
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Monday-Friday

800.522.3315 or 580.652.2418

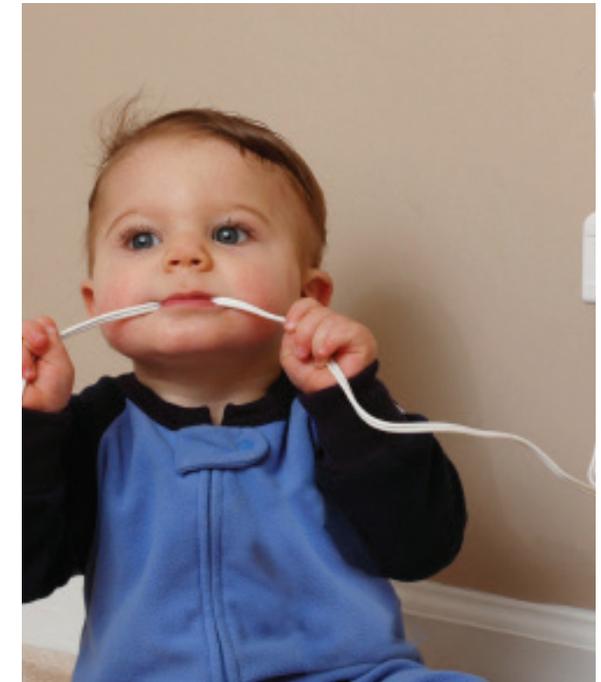
info@tcec.coop

www.tcec.coop



ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR THE HOME

Being aware of the electrical hazards in and around your home could save your or your child's life.



SAFETY FIRST

Electricity is a major part of our daily lives and essential to our modern lifestyle. When electricity does the work it is intended to do, the benefits are enormous. But awareness of the power of electricity is vital or the consequences can be devastating.

Each year, electrical accidents and fires kill more than a thousand people and injure thousands more. An estimated 53,000 electrical fires occur in U.S. homes each year. Most of these can be avoided by taking simple safety precautions. The vast majority of those accidents can be prevented with awareness. We all must learn about electricity, and how to properly use it, and ensure that it is an asset instead of a liability.

Sound safety practices can help minimize electrical hazards and cut down the risk of accidents. The hazard of electricity cannot be eliminated, but it can be controlled through education and engineering.

The more you understand about electrical energy, the safer you will be whether at work or at home.

SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN

- Never touch a downed power line and keep others away too.
- Don't climb trees near power lines. Each year, children are killed climbing trees that come into contact with power lines. Teach children to never climb trees near power lines. Even if the branches aren't touching the lines, they could make contact when the weight of the child is added to the branches.
- Don't fly kites or balloons around power lines. Electricity can travel down the strings of kites or balloons that become tangled in power lines, and can cause fire or shock.
- Keep all electrical appliances away from water. Don't use them or have their cords near the bathtub or sinks.
- Don't stick fingers or objects in outlets and keep an eye on younger kids so they don't either.
- Don't ever try to remove anything from a power line. If you see something stuck in a power line, call TCEC at 580-652-2418.

SAFETY TIPS FOR EVERYONE

- Keep liquids, including drinks, away from electrical items such as TVs, video game consoles, and computers.
- Do not overload outlets with too many plugs.
- Never yank on the cord to unplug an appliance. Hold on to the plug itself.
- If you see a broken electrical cord in your house, replace the cord. Never try to repair it.
- Stay away from big metal electrical boxes in your neighborhood. Don't try to hide them with vegetation either.
- If there is lightning, do not stand near trees. Go inside right away.
- If you drop an appliance in water, do not try to get it. Shut off the power to your home before retrieving the item.
- Have smoke alarms on every level of your home and inside each bedroom. Test your smoke alarm batteries every month.
- Know what's below, call 811 before you dig.

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