

# Electrical Safety

Electricity is a necessity for modern-day living, but electricity can be dangerous if it is not dealt with properly. To avoid electrical injury, treat electricity with respect using these safety tips.

## Practice electrical safety at home

- Always contact a qualified professional to do any electrical servicing.
- Equip all outdoor and bathroom outlets with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs).
- Do not overload electrical circuits.
- Never stick toys, keys, fingers or anything else into an electrical outlet.
- Do not plug or unplug electrical appliances or tools with wet hands or in wet conditions.
- Replace damaged or frayed cords.
- Do not attempt to disconnect your power meter. It could explode.
- Use cords with a third prong, and always ensure the third prong remains in use.

## Avoid overhead power lines when:

- Using a ladder.
- Pruning or cutting trees.
- Cleaning a pool.
- Installing or moving an antenna.
- Working on the roof.
- Carrying long tools or pipes.
- Setting up and moving scaffolding.
- Moving augers, grain truck boxes, wing-type cultivators and air seeders.

## Be safe around fallen and sagging wires

- Always assume a downed power line to be energized.
- Stay at least 15 metres (45 feet) away from downed power lines. If you feel a tingling sensation, place your feet together and shuffle or hop out of the area without touching anything.
- Never touch an energized wire with your hand or any other object.
- If you notice a damaged electrical facility, notify your electric company immediately.

## Teach children to respect electricity

- Never play around power substations, poles, towers, or fences or trees near power lines.
- Never fly kites near overhead power lines.
- Never spray water guns or hoses at power lines.
- Never try to open or poke sticks or other objects into underground transformer boxes.
- Obey 'keep out', 'danger' or 'high voltage' warning signs.
- Avoid going outside during a lightning storm.

For more information, please call 1-866-421-6929 or visit [www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ss](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/ss).