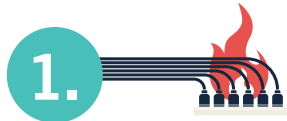


ELECTRICITY 101

To stay safe around electricity, start with these basic tips:



1.

DON'T OVERLOAD OUTLETS OR CIRCUITS

Plugging in too many items or drawing too much power on a circuit can cause overheating, fire, and damage to devices.



2.

TEST YOUR GFCIS

Make sure all outside outlets are ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected. Test monthly to make sure they are working.



3.

BE CAREFUL AROUND WATER

Never use electricity while standing in damp or wet conditions. Keep all electrical devices away from water, including cellphones that are charging.



4.

DON'T USE FAULTY ELECTRICAL CORDS OR PLUGS

Do not use cords that look frayed, worn, or cracked. Do not use broken plugs. Never remove the pin from a three-pronged plug.



5.

EVALUATE YOUR APPLIANCES

Do not use appliances in disrepair. Older or broken appliances can overheat, start a fire, and cause serious injuries.



6.

BEWARE OF OVERHEAD POWER LINES

Keep at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. Carry an extension ladder or other far-reaching tools or equipment horizontally.

Learn more at:  [Safe Electricity.org](https://www.safeelectricity.org)

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.

2-3

3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Source: call811.com

Electrical safety lessons for kids

Electricity is an incredible tool that has revolutionized modern technology. But, like any tool, electricity can be dangerous when used incorrectly, especially by curious kids who may not recognize the hazards. May is National Electrical Safety Month, and it's a great time to teach children of the dangers of electricity.

For nearly 20 years, magician Scott Davis has teamed up with Carroll Electric Cooperative to use magic tricks to teach electrical safety to elementary school students. "Making Accidents Disappear" is an educational and entertaining 40-minute program that uses audience participation, storytelling and magic to communicate the importance of being responsible and safe around electricity.

"While magic is a fun and engaging way to learn about the dangers of electricity, it is important to ensure children understand the risks they are facing if they do not practice electrical safety," Davis says.

In his magic show, Davis stresses to kids the importance of avoiding downed power lines. "In fact, it is best to avoid power lines, transformers and substations in general. A downed power line can still be energized, and it can also energize other objects, including fences and trees. If a downed power line is encountered by a child, he or she should ask an adult to report it immediately to 911," he says.

Davis recommends sharing these safety tips with kids:

- Never climb trees or fly kites near power lines.
- Never stick anything other than a plug into an electrical outlet.
- Never use anything electric in or around the bathtub.



Magician Scott Davis teaches children of the dangers of electricity in his "Making Accidents Disappear" show.

- Don't plug in any electric cord that has become frayed or has exposed wires.

"Accidents are the No. 1 killer of children in America, and they're preventable with proper education," Davis says. "There's no other tool we need to know how to behave around more than electricity."

In partnership with the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas, Davis has traveled to every county in Arkansas to perform his show. For more information on electrical safety or to schedule a "Making Accidents Disappear" program, contact Carroll Electric Cooperative at 800-432-9720.



HOLIDAY CLOSING

The offices of Carroll Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.

Have a safe and happy holiday!