

A man in a red and blue plaid shirt and dark jeans is crouching in a park, planting a young tree. He is holding the trunk of the tree with both hands. To his left is a green wheelbarrow and a silver bucket. The background shows a lush green park with many trees. The bottom of the image features a large green triangle on the left and a yellow triangle on the right, meeting at a diagonal line.

# Your guide to **Electrical Safety**

Here at your electric cooperative, your safety is our top priority. Follow these simple electrical safety tips to keep you and your family safe throughout the year.



## **Top Ten Year-Round Safety Tips:**

- Never put fingers or any objects in electrical outlets. Cover outlets to keep children safe.
- Old or frayed extension cords can cause a fire. Throw them away!
- Keep electrical appliances away from water to prevent electrocution.
- Turn off appliances before unplugging them. Pull the plug itself—not the cord—when unplugging appliances.
- Never tamper with your electrical meter. Not only is it unsafe, it's also illegal!
- Don't touch anything that is touching a power line, such as a fence, a car or piece of machinery.
- Turn off all plugged-in electronics during storms with lightning. Avoid contact with plumbing or water, including bathing or doing laundry.
- Use extension cords only temporarily, and never use them for space heaters or air conditioners.
- Stay away from substations and power lines, and keep children away.
- **Call 811 before you dig to locate underground lines.**

# Seasonal Safety



## Winter

- Never leave a space heater unattended. Always turn it off before leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Replace electric blankets or heating pads that are old or worn.
- Do not place anything on top of an electric blanket

that's in use. This can cause overheating. **Spring**



Never fly kites, drones or model planes near electrical wires.

- Do not play around power lines or climb trees near them.
- Unplug outdoor tools and appliances when not in use.

## Summer



Never handle electrical devices when you are wet, whether from water activities or from perspiration.

- Contact a licensed electrician for electrical work in your home, including installation and service of air conditioning and other cooling equipment.
- Cover outdoor receptacles to keep them dry, especially around pools and spas.

## Fall



Only use weatherproof electrical devices for outside activities.

- Never touch plumbing or gas pipes when performing do-it-yourself electrical projects.
- Remember the 20-foot rule when climbing a ladder. Always maintain a 20-foot distance from power lines.

To learn more about electrical safety,  
visit *BeAwareEverywhere.com*.