



conEdison

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ELECTRIC SAFETY




WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Electric Safety

Whether it's your kitchen, den, or bathroom, your stove, computer, or hairdryer, the risk of an electrical shock or fire exists. Knowing what hazards to look for will help keep you and your family safe. Essential electric-safety rules include:

- Check outlets for loose connections and corrosion. Call an electrician if there is a problem.
- Plug unused outlets with safety covers if you have young children at home.
- Check electric cords for worn spots or frayed wires. Replace them, because homemade repairs often lead to fires.
- Try not to conceal outlets behind furniture or window coverings.
- If an electrical product falls into water, do not try to retrieve it. Instead, make sure you are dry and that the plug is not wet or oily. Pull the plug, not the cord, from the outlet or use the circuit breaker to shut the power.
- Don't use appliances during an electric storm. Use the telephone only if it's an emergency.
- Don't place electric cords under carpets or furniture, and never staple or nail cords to walls, baseboards, or other objects.
- Use extension cords only temporarily. And don't overload or connect them to other extension cords.
- Never remove the third prong from a plug to make it fit a two-prong outlet. This could lead to an electric shock.
- Don't overload outlets.
- Unplug unused appliances.
- Replace missing or broken wall plates.
- If an outlet or switch wall plate is hot to the touch, immediately shut off the circuit and have a professional check it.

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- A tear-drop shaped darkening around or above an outlet or wall plate may indicate dangerous heat build-up.
 - Don't overload power strips.
 - Use surge protectors to safeguard sensitive appliances and electronics.
 - Be sure that all small appliances and tools are certified by a nationally recognized independent testing lab.
 - Know where your main electrical panel is so you can turn off your electricity in case of an emergency.

When You're Outside

- Avoid contact with open or damaged streetlight bases, especially if you see exposed wires. Call 311 to report this condition. In Westchester County, contact your local municipality.
- Never go near or touch a fallen power line or other damaged electrical equipment. Report the condition by calling 1-800-75-CONED (1-800-752-6633).
- Do not drive over downed lines. If your car comes into contact with a downed power line, don't get out. Call 911 or honk for help, and keep nonemergency people away.
- Use electrical products or extension cords outdoors only if they are marked for outdoor use. Keep outdoor outlets covered and dry between uses.
- Never use outdoor portable electrical appliances or tools while you are wet or near water and never leave them unattended.
- Safety information for contractors can be found at www.conEd.com/contractor_safety.

Tampering with Con Edison equipment is illegal

It also creates hazards that could hurt you. If you think someone has tampered with our equipment, call **1-888-314-5385**. You do not have to give us your name.



Working Together

Con Edison continuously monitors and inspects its electric system to ensure public safety. We encourage you to take an active role in helping us keep our system safe. Please be alert to suspicious individuals or activities around our facilities and equipment. If you see something suspicious, call the police.

Our Commitment to Safety

To ensure the highest level of safety, service reliability, and security, Con Edison:

- Works with emergency responders and state and local agencies to prevent and prepare for emergencies. This is done through training and periodic drills.
- Works closely with the community.
- Uses the latest security and safety technologies and methods.
- Constantly examines its system and seeks to improve it through integrity management programs.

Want to Know More?

If you want additional electric safety information, visit Con Edison's Web site, www.conEd.com/customercentral/safetytip.asp.

The following organizations also offer safety ideas:

- Electric Safety Foundation, www.esfi.org
- Consumer Products Safety Commission, www.cpsc.gov
- Underwriters Laboratory, www.ul.com

