

May is National Electrical Safety Month

May is National Electrical Safety Month and a good time to raise awareness and help customers avoid potential electrical hazards.

The annual campaign is led by the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), <https://www.esfi.org>, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting electrical safety in the home, school, and workplace. The purpose is to educate and share steps that can be taken to reduce electrical related fires, fatalities, injuries, and property loss.

Electric utilities across the nation use this time to remind customers to check their surroundings and take other safeguards. By taking simple precautions, one can avoid dangerous situations and stay safe year-round.

Tips to keep customers safe from electrical accidents:

- Make sure all electrical work is performed by licensed electricians.
- Avoid placing cords in places where they can be damaged or pinched by furniture, such as under rugs or across doorways.
- Cords that are frayed, cracked, or damaged should be removed and replaced immediately, not spliced or taped.
- Minimize the use of extension cords and never plug two extension cords together.
- Use light bulbs that correspond with the recommended wattage on the fixture.
- Inspect all electrical appliances before using them to ensure they are properly grounded.
- Remember that water and electricity do not mix. Keep electric appliances and tools away from water. If an electric appliance or tools falls in water, never reach into the water.
- Do not let children climb trees near power lines.
- Stay away from electrical substations and transformers and do not allow children to play near them.
- Avoid overhead and underground power lines when you use a ladder, work on a roof, clean a pool, prune trees, or dig in the yard. Call 811 before you dig, for a free locate of underground utility lines.
- Never touch a downed power line or anything in contact with it. Never drive over downed powerlines or drive through water that is in contact with a fallen line. Keep away and call Lewisburg Electric System @ 931-359-2544 or call 911.

