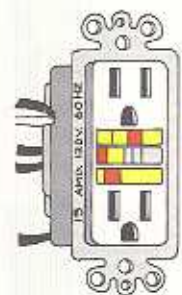


## Tips On Using Power Tools And Equipment Outdoors

- Select tools designed for outdoor use. They should have heavier wiring, be properly insulated, and have a three-way grounded plug.



- GFCI protection is required for outside, crawl space, and bathroom outlets. GFCI's are also required for most kitchen, basement, and garage locations.

## Keep Clear Of Power Lines!

- Carry and use ladders and tools well away from all power lines, including the line that connects to your home.
- Contact your local utility before pruning, trimming, or cutting down trees that are near overhead electrical lines.
- Before doing any digging, call your electric utility, gas, cable, and phone companies to locate underground lines. (Many areas have a one-call number for this.) Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer!



## Outdoor Electrical Safety Tips



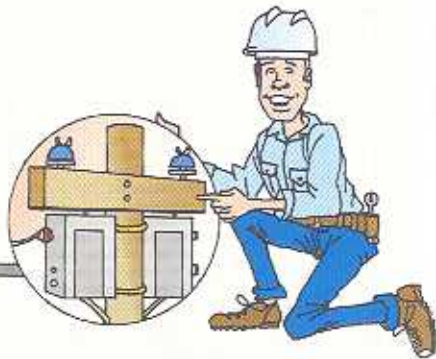
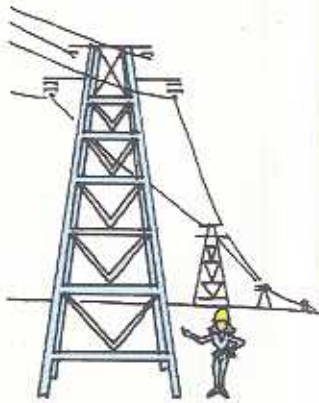
- ✓ Check all outdoor electrical cords. Are they frayed? Broken? Properly grounded? Replace, if needed.
- ✓ Use approved covers with outdoor electrical outlets. Check local building codes.
- ✓ GFCI's (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) can prevent shocks or fires. Your local hardware store can provide more information.
- ✓ Unplug appliances and tools when not in use.
- ✓ Never build a pool or spa, or place a child's pool, under electrical lines.
- ✓ Never fly kites or model airplanes near overhead power lines.
- ✓ During storms, stay out of lakes, ponds, pools, and spas.
- ✓ Don't touch metal fencing after a storm.
- ✓ Electrical wires? Telephone wires? Don't guess! Assume any downed wires are energized. Stay away and keep others away.
- ✓ It's illegal to climb or attach signs to utility poles. Nails or tacks could cause an accident to an electric worker.

# Outdoor Electrical Safety



## Important Facts About Electricity

- Electricity travels from the power plant to your neighborhood in high voltage "transmission lines."
- Stay clear of high voltage towers like this. Never touch or climb on one! Ceramic insulators keep high voltage in overhead wires away from the tower itself.
- Transformers in substations and on poles change high voltage to levels that can be used in homes or businesses.

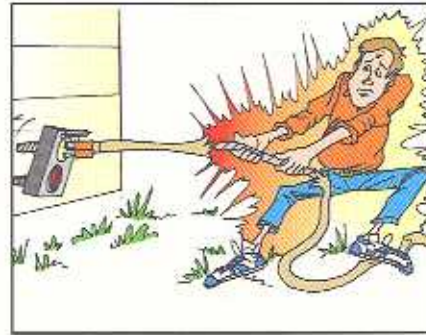


- Pad-mounted transformers are for underground wiring. The transformers are inside sturdy metal cabinets, which are locked for safety. Never pry them open. If you find an unlocked door, call your local utility.

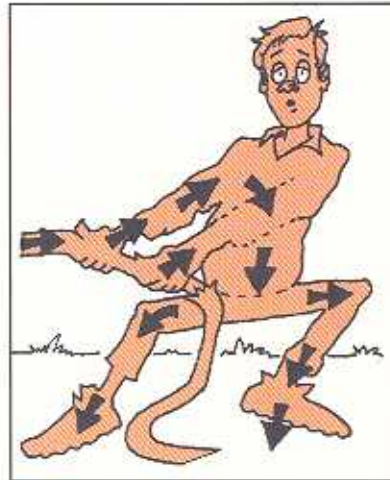


## Conducting The Business Of Electricity

1. Remember—electricity seeks all paths to the ground. It travels through conductors. Good conductors are water, metal (like copper wire), and people.



2. People are such good conductors because the human body is about 70% water. That's why electricity often uses your body as the easiest pathway to the ground.
3. Electricity can overload your body's nerves, heart, or breathing. Electric shock can affect your cardiovascular system. Burns from electricity can be equally dangerous. Secondary injuries resulting from electric shock, like falls and mechanical injuries, can also be very serious!



**Electricity Will Use You As A Conductor If You Come In Contact With It. Keep Your Distance.**

## What To Do In An Electrical Storm

**Lightning surges from clouds to the ground through the best conductor around. Don't be that conductor!**

**If You Are Outside In A Storm, Here Are The Things To Do:**

- Seek shelter. Never stay in a pool or lake. The best shelter is a house.
- At the first sight of lightning, jump in your vehicle. If you are on a golf course, get in your cart.
- Caught in the open? Seek low ground. Sit or lie down...it may be uncomfortable, but it may save your life.



**When Live Wires Fall...**

- Remember—electricity will use you as a conductor if you come in contact with it.
- If someone is touching a fallen power line, stay away.
- Efforts to pull a shock victim away could make you a victim.
- Stay clear until you are sure the power is shut off.