

## **Electrical Safety and you!!**

November is a great time to review Electrical Safety both at work and around your home. With Colder weather here, the loss of sunlight earlier in the day, and holiday lighting all factors for this time of year, now is a great time to ensure you are keeping yourself out of harms way.

Below are a few important points to remember whenever dealing with electricity.

- An average of one worker is electrocuted on the job everyday.
- A hand help power drill utilizes 30 times more electricity than is required to kill an average person.
- Chances of electricity increase with moisture or humidity. Also overloaded circuits and outlets are one of the greatest causes of electrical fires.
- A current as low as 10 mA(milli-amps) can cause muscles to freeze. A milli-amp is equal to 1/1000 of an AMP. A common household AMP is between 15-30 or anywhere from 15 to 30 thousand more amps than is required to freeze your muscles!

How can you protect yourself in your home?

- Use only properly rated tools that are grounded.
- Check appliance cords to ensure they are in good condition and don't show signs of wear or fraying.
- Install GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) near water sources or outdoors.
- Avoid touching wet surfaces when utilizing electrical devices.
- Check the conditions of extension cords and use them as temporary wiring.
- Never overload an outlet and stay away from Octopus or multiple plug adapters that can overload a circuit.

What about outdoor safety?

- If high voltage lines are down, stay away and contact police and emergency services as well as the utility company.
- DO NOT touch the lines or attempt to move them.
- Do warn others near or around the lines of the hazard.

These tips will help to keep you and your family safe year round and especially during this upcoming holiday season.

Compliments of the North Brookfield Safety Committee

\*Materials/information derived from NSC electrical safety facts sheet