

Although we are not a residential electrical contractor we do go home at night to our families. We want everyone to benefit from our decades of research and education about worker and electrical safety. Please read the following “Home electrical safety tips” and put them into practice

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS AT HOME

### OUTLETS

- Install childproof caps or cover plates on unused outlets (Make sure you use the non-chocking hazard type)
- Do not overload outlets with multiple adaptors or power strips; relocate cords instead
- Install ground fault circuit interrupter (GFI) outlets in potentially hazardous areas such as kitchens, bathrooms, unfinished basements, crawlspaces, garages, and all outdoor outlets

### LIGHT BULBS

- Use bulbs that have the correct wattage requirements for each fixture – using a higher wattage bulb can cause the fixture to overheat (consider switching to more efficient compact fluorescent or LED lamps that provide the same level of light at a lower wattage level)

### CORDS

- Check cords regularly for frays, cracks or kinks, including power tool cords, holiday lights and extension cords
- Cords should be firmly plugged into outlets, If the cord is loose and can pull out easily, choose a different, more snug outlet
- Cords should not be placed under rugs
- Do not make modifications to cords at any time – do not clip off the third prong or attempt to file down a wider prong to fit in a different outlet
- When unplugging a cord, pull on the cord at the outlet rather than tug on the cord itself

### APPLIANCES

- Unplug unused appliances and stow cords safely out of reach of young children, pets or hazardous situations
- Appliances that generate heat, such as clocks, TV’s and computer monitors should be given several inches of clearance all around for good air circulation and cooling. Do not drape clothes, toys or other items over warm appliances
- Keep all electrical appliances away from water such as sinks, bathtubs, pools or overhead vents that may drip

### OUTDOORS

- Keep trees pruned and away from overhead power lines as well as where the power lines approach the house. **Never** attempt to trim trees near power lines yourself. Contact KCP&L, your local utility company or a licensed professional.
- Do not fly kites near power lines
- When using a ladder, carefully inspect the surrounding area to be sure it is free from power lines
- Do not swim or play in water during an electrical storm, even if it is not raining
- Do not approach a downed power line to see if it is live – it may give no signs that can be easily observed, but it is just as deadly. Contact the authorities immediately about downed lines.