

THE Current WORD

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A PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBER/OWNERS OF HORRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

"DO-IT-YOURSELF" Home Energy Audit



The first thing to do when performing your own home energy audit is to make a list of any existing problems, such as condensation and uncomfortable or drafty rooms. The next thing is to look for air leaks. They are common around electrical outlets, switch plates, window frames, baseboards, weather stripping, fireplace dampers, attic hatches, and wall or window-mounted air conditioners. When inspecting windows and doors for air leaks, if you can see daylight around the door or window frame, that is where the leak exists.

When looking at the outside of your home, examine areas where two different building materials meet. This includes exterior corners, areas where siding and chimneys meet, and places where the foundation and the bottom of the exterior brick or siding meet. Make sure to plug and caulk holes or penetrations for faucets, pipes, electric outlets, and wiring. Also, look for cracks and holes in mortar, foundation and siding and seal them with the appropriate material. Finally, check the exterior caulking around doors and windows to see if they are sealed tightly.

When performing your own home audit, make sure to examine the ceilings and walls. If these two areas are not properly insulated, you risk heat loss in the winter and cool-air loss in the summer. Check to see that the attic hatch is heavily insulated, as well as weather-stripped and closed tightly. In the attic, determine if openings for items such as pipes, ductwork and chimneys are sealed. If you see any gaps, seal them with expanding foam caulk or another permanent sealant.



For more information on home energy audits and energy-saving techniques you can use, visit Horry Electric Cooperative's website at www.horryelectric.com.

Horry Electric Cooperative will be closed for the following holidays:

MARK 2007						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

THANKSGIVING
Nov. 22 & 23
CHRISTMAS
Closing at 1:30 p.m.
Dec. 24 - Closed all day
Dec. 25 - 26.
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Jan. 1

Horry Electric is offering **FREE** 2008 Touchstone Energy calendars. These calendars contain a year's worth of energy-saving tips. Calendars can be picked up at any Horry Electric office. Quantities are limited and the calendars are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A Year of Energy Savings



Horry Electric Cooperative

We're powerless! ...without your phone number.

Horry Electric's **PowerTouch** SYSTEM was designed to help you.

Now help us!

If you have an outage and your correct phone number is not in Horry Electric's system, we will not be able to automatically track your location and dispatch crews to the correct area. That could mean delays in restoring your electricity.

Give us a call at: 843-369-2211 to give us the correct phone number.

Horry Electric Cooperative, Inc. Conway: 843-369-2211 | Myrtle Beach: 843-650-7530 | www.horryelectric.com

Your Touchstone Energy Partner



FALL into Safety

By Christine Grammes

Fall is a great time to catch up on outdoor home projects before the season changes. Faulty extension cords are often a source of injury when working outside, as well as metal ladders coming into contact with an electrical source. By following the tips below, you can be safe this fall.

EXTENSION CORDS AND POWER TOOLS:

Check power tools and electrical cords to make sure they are in good condition. Power tools should be designed for outdoor use.

Extension cords should be designed for outdoor use. They are thicker, more durable and have features for preventing moisture damage.

Use three-wire extension cords with three-pronged plugs.

Look for the amperage rating of the extension cord to make sure it will meet the power demand of the tool.

Do not plug one extension cord into another. Use the proper length for the job.

Never leave an open extension cord that is plugged into an outlet. Unplug the cord when you are finished using it.

LADDERS:

Use fiberglass or wood ladders when working around overhead power lines or electrical sources. Metal ladders conduct electricity and can be fatal if the ladder comes into contact with electricity.

If you must use metal, carefully check the location of all overhead wires to avoid contact.

Never work on a windy day, as a gust of wind could shift an overhead wire into the ladder.

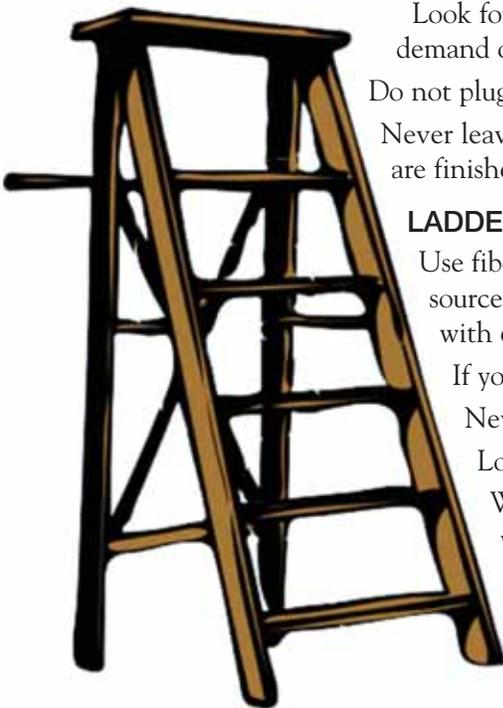
Lower the ladder when carrying or moving it so as not to catch it in an overhead wire.

When placing the ladder on the ground, make sure the distance to the nearest overhead wire is at least twice the length of the ladder.

Make sure the ladder is placed on solid, level ground to prevent sliding.

Christine Grammes is a freelance writer specializing in energy and cooperative affairs.

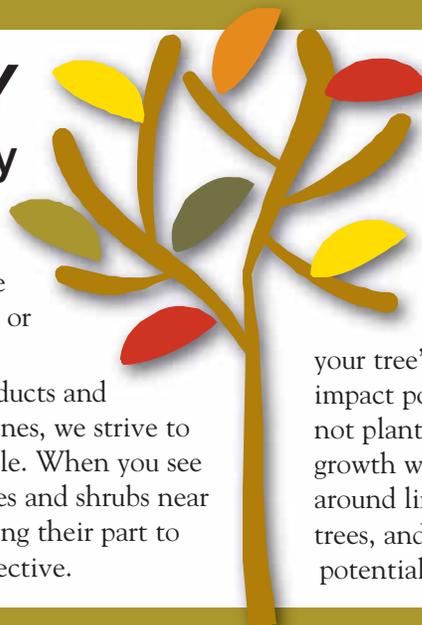
Source: Consumer Product Safety Commission, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative



RIGHT-OF-WAY Done the Right Way

Ensuring that our member-owners have reliable and efficient electric service is a driving force at your electric cooperative. One way we do this is by maintaining a clear path, or right-of-way easement, around power lines.

By strategically removing only the woody products and undergrowth that directly impact the power lines, we strive to have as little effect on the landscape as possible. When you see maintenance crews trimming or removing trees and shrubs near rights-of-way, remember that they are also doing their part to keep your electric service reliable and cost effective.



When you plant a tree, LOOK UP!

When you plant a tree, think about your tree's future growth and whether it will impact power lines. The smart approach is to not plant trees in any location where future growth will enter the maintained right-of-way around lines. This will best preserve your trees, and protect you and your family from potential power loss.