

LESSONS ON ELECTRICAL SAFETY SAVES LIVES

May is National Electrical Safety Month, a particularly good time to emphasize that nothing we do at Nolin RECC is as important as helping you stay safe. Electric power is one of the greatest conveniences ever invented, but we must all understand and respect the power of electricity.

Among the ways Nolin promotes safety is by educating our members about the safe use of electricity and by providing you with life-saving information about power lines, substations and transformers.

For instance, we have a 14-foot trailer equipped with displays that look like outdoor power lines. Trained line technicians use this trailer to teach students as well as adults about electrical safety. The program is designed to entertain crowds—and at the same time teach folks how to avoid dangers.

During one segment of the 30-minute show, a raw hot dog is placed on a metal wire attached to the end of a long, insulated pole. The instructor explains how electricity is conducted and why line technicians wear rubber safety gear any time they're near power lines.

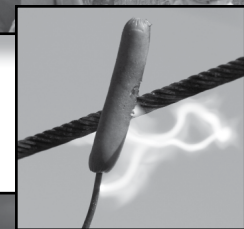
To illustrate this point, the line tech lifts the pole holding the hot dog until it touches the high voltage line on the safety trailer. Flames erupt and the hot dog begins to burn immediately. After the hot dog is lowered, students listen intently as they learn about power lines energized with 7,200 volts of electricity and how they produce temperatures hotter than the surface of the sun. The evidence of this electrical danger is produced as students view the charred hot dog.

“Imagine if that was your finger,” says Line Technician Jerry French. “If you're not wearing proper protective equipment, power lines will actually cook you like that hot dog.”

Nolin also provides electrical safety lessons inside the classroom using a 6-foot board display. This lesson typically takes about 45 minutes and is used to demonstrate what happens when kite strings, ladders, grain augers, and various other materials come into contact with power lines.

Nolin's electrical safety demonstrations involve creative lessons the students appear to enjoy and understand. We hope these demonstrations will keep children from playing near power lines or ever approaching a downed line.

OVER



Mickey Miller
President & CEO

Ongoing electrical safety education in our community is one of Nolin's major priorities, and we are totally committed to our responsibility to teach you and your children safe habits around electricity. Anyone wishing to schedule an electrical safety class should call the Nolin RECC office at 270-765-6153.

STAYING SAFE AFTER THE STORM

Electrical hazards are at their height after storms and floods

The danger does not end when the storm does. People can be hurt or killed by hazards left behind.

Stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. Warn others to stay away and contact Nolin immediately if you see a downed power line.

If using electric yard tools in clean-up efforts, do not operate them if it's raining or the ground is wet, or while you are wet or standing in water. Keep all electric tools and equipment at least ten feet away from wet surfaces.

Before re-entering storm-damaged buildings or rooms, be sure all electric and gas services are turned off. Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you can't reach your breaker box safely, call Nolin for help.

Never step into a flooded basement or other area if water is covering electrical outlets, appliances or cords. Be alert to any electrical equipment that could be energized and in contact with water. Never touch electrical appliances, cords or wires while you are wet or standing in water.

Cleaning up and using water-damaged appliances also carry safety risks. Electric motors in appliances that have been drenched or submerged should be thoroughly cleaned and reconditioned before they are put back into service. It may be necessary to repair or replace electrical appliances or tools that have been in contact with water. Do not use any water-damaged appliance until a professional has checked it out.

May is National Electrical Safety Month, but remember to use care around electricity every day of the year!

To read more about staying safe around electricity, or to let your children interact with safety robots Buzz and Sparky on our Safety Station pages, visit our Web site at www.nolinrecc.com.

Sincerely,



Michael L. "Mickey" Miller
President and CEO

Mark your calendar...
Nolin's Annual Meeting is June 10th.



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