

Florence Energy News

Power Safety for Kids

The harnessing of electric power has been one of the greatest human achievements. Today we can heat and cool our homes, power medical equipment that saves lives, and learn and communicate on the Internet, all through the use of electricity.

But electricity, when handled improperly, can be very dangerous—even deadly. Both lightning and electricity from power plants demand great respect from kids and adults in order to prevent accidents.

Florence Utilities and TVA want to help you learn how to stay safe when it comes to electric power. Here are some important tips for preventing injuries from electricity.

Indoors

- Never turn on a light switch or electrical appliance while you are wet or while you are in the bathtub.

- Be careful not to leave electrical cords where people might step on them. Wear and tear on the cord can cause it to become unsafe.



- Check electrical cords for exposed wiring before plugging anything in. If you see a worn-looking cord, point it out to an adult.
- Never put any object other than a plug designed for that purpose into an electrical outlet. If you have questions about whether a plug is safe to use, ask your parent or a teacher.
- Never touch electrical outlets with your fingers or with objects.
- Ask an adult to help you change light bulbs. Always turn lamps and other light fixtures off before changing a bulb.
- In case of an electrical fire at home, get out of the house, then call the fire department and an adult.
- Never use water to try to put out an electrical fire—you could be electrocuted.



Outdoors

- Never climb utility poles, transmission towers, or fences around electrical plants or substations (which house equipment that reduces high voltage electricity so it can be used by consumers). If you see other people doing these things, tell an adult you trust right away.

- Stay away from areas or buildings marked with signs that read "Danger: High Voltage."

- If you enjoy climbing trees, avoid trees that are near electrical power lines.

- Never, ever touch an outdoor electrical pole or wire that has fallen to the ground. It could kill you!

- Stay away from and never touch transformers (usually large metal boxes attached to utility poles or on the ground) or substations. They contain high-voltage equipment that can hurt or kill you.



- Come inside during a thunderstorm (or even occasional flashes of lightning with no rain). Many people around the world are struck by lightning each year. Nearly all are badly injured and some are killed.

- Call 911 if you see a person who has been or is being electrocuted. Do not touch the person because they could be carrying the flow of electricity.

- Never swim during storms. As soon as you hear thunder or see lightning, get out of the water.

For more activities and information for kids, visit www.tvakids.com

on the internet.

NEW WAY TO GO GREEN!

**How Can I
Save Energy,
Save Gas,
Save Time,
Save Stamps,
Save Waiting in Line,
Never Have a Penalty,
and
Never Have
a Late Payment?**

Try the BANK DRAFT PROGRAM

How does this
Program work?

Each month, Florence Utilities will electronically draft the amount of your utility bill(s) on your due date. They will send your monthly bill(s) to you marked "**PAID BY BANK DRAFT**" so you can write it in your checkbook on the due date. Your bank or credit union will deduct the amount of the draft from your checking account and send you a record

with your monthly statement. Bank drafts that are returned to us marked "unpaid" will be subject to the same collection procedures as any other returned check. Either party may terminate participation in this program. If you desire to stop the program, you would need to send a written request.

To participate in this "Electronic Bank Draft Plan," please call Customer Service at 760-6512 and ask for a Authorization Form, fill it out and return it with a voided check to Florence Utilities, P.O. Box 877, Florence, AL 35631-0877. Please list all the utility accounts that you want to pay by electronic bank draft.

If your bank account changes, please let us know in writing and include a voided check.

NOTICE
FLORENCE UTILITIES
and
The CITY OF FLORENCE
will be
CLOSED
on **FRIDAY**
JULY 3, 2009

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Florence ENERGY

NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM FLORENCE UTILITIES

The Florence Electricity Department has included information on **POWER SAFETY FOR KIDS**. With school being out, this is important for all children and adults to be concerned with safety inside and outside the home.

Another way to go **GREEN!!** Look at how the Bank Draft Program can make a difference!! Details telling how the program can save energy, gas, and time, and how you can use it are included inside.

www.florenceutilities.com