



Rhode Island Local Technical Assistance Program

Everyday Safety Talks

Electrical Safety

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Electrical hazards can cause severe burns, shocks, and electrocution if not taken care of properly.

Here are a few safety tips that will help protect you from electrical hazards.

- Never assume that any wire is safe to touch
- Stay at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines
- If working at heights or handling long objects, look for electrical wires before starting work
- Never operate electrical equipment while you are standing in water. In damp areas, use only ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected equipment
- Never repair electrical cords or equipment unless you are qualified and authorized to do so. Do not place electrical tape on a cut in the outer insulation of a lead cord
- Stay well away from fallen overhead power lines
- Be sure that electrical outlets in your bathrooms, basement, garage and outdoor areas are all GFCI protected
- Check GFCI outlets regularly to ensure that they are working correctly
- Always use extreme caution when working around electricity!

