



ILLUMINATIONS



FROM THE DESK OF OUR GENERAL MANAGER

Electrical Safety Month

It happens at all times of the day or night. Weekdays, weekends, holidays, special occasions, during important sporting events, hot weather, cold weather, sunny days or stormy days,

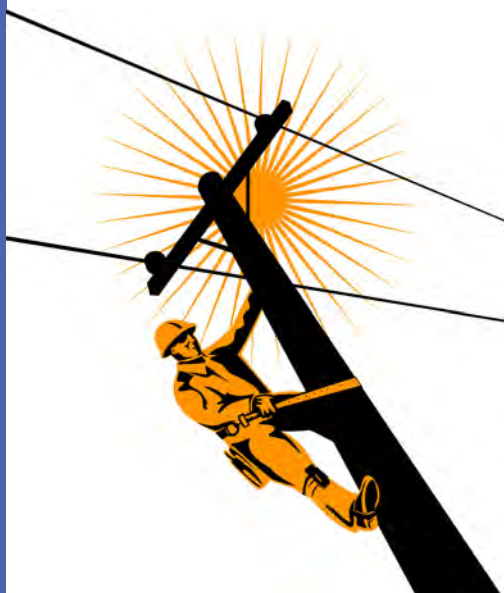
anytime, anywhere. Suddenly... THE LIGHTS GO OUT!!!!

For me, that has happened during baseball games, birthday parties, Thanksgiving meals with family, the middle of the night, Christmas celebrations, and on and on. Power outages don't recognize special occasions or anything else for that matter. And when it happens, life does not return to normal until the power is restored.

Power outages can occur in the most unexpected situations, like a beautiful 60-degree sunny spring day (this is most often due to a squirrel's mischief). However, they are more commonly associated with storms or other hazardous weather events, posing a potential risk to your safety.

That is when your intelligent, well-dressed, handsome, talented, hard-working McMinnville Electric System linemen shine their brightest (pun intended on the shine. Get it... electricity.

Shine). Anyway... imagine standing in a blinding rainstorm, trying to look up at the sky. That's the kind of weather conditions lineworkers face during



a power outage. They're out there, patrolling powerlines, searching for the trouble spot. It's never an easy task. Their equipment is massive, the work is perilous, and the hours can be grueling.

However, when the lights are restored, smiles illuminate the room (once again, pun intended). The smiles of our customers forge a personal bond with a challenging and arduous profession, rendering the lineworkers' endeavors truly rewarding.

As May marks Electrical Safety Month, please take a moment to acknowledge and show gratitude to the dedicated MES lineworkers who serve our community tirelessly and safely. While I am continually thankful for their service, dedicating a month to honoring those who ensure our uninterrupted power supply throughout the day and night is truly special. Celebrating 85 Years of Service to the citizens of McMinnville! We are "Shining the Light on your Future."

Thinking about purchasing an electric vehicle? Make sure your home or business is prepared for electric vehicle charging:

As MES, TVA, and Ascension Saint Thomas River Park Hospital begin their partnership to provide fast chargers to the McMinnville citizens, please take a moment to understand how to prepare your home or business for an EV.

Charging Types

Charging types vary based on the amount of electricity used and how fast they charge.

- Level 1: 120v. Standard home outlet. 3-5 miles of range per hour
- Level 2: 240v. Requires EV charger installation. 10-20 miles of range per hour

- Level 3: Available at businesses / commercial settings only. 80% charge in 20-30 minutes

FIRE AND SHOCK HAZARD: Never use an extension cord when charging electric vehicles. Doing so may lead to fires or electric shocks.



Prepare your Home or Business

Have a qualified electrician complete a site assessment to ensure your home or business has the right electrical capacity for EV charging.

- Ensure you have enough space for an EV charger
- Make sure your charger and charging cords are certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL)
- Make sure you have adequate GFCI protection to avoid electric shocks

All EV charger installations and site assessments should only be completed by qualified electricians who have been trained and are insured and bonded to complete electrical work.



Fast Chargers Arriving at Ascension Saint Thomas River Park Hospital

FAST CHARGERS!

National Electrical Safety Month 2024 Campaign Overview

The Electrical Safety Foundation (ESFI) is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety at home and in the workplace. To commemorate National Electrical Safety Month each May, ESFI spearheads an annual campaign to

educate key audiences about the steps that can be taken to reduce the number of electrically related fires, fatalities, injuries, and property loss.

ESFI is excited to announce that its National Electrical Safety Month 2024 campaign will focus on lithium-ion battery safety. The materials for this year's campaign educate the public on how to purchase, use, and recycle lithium-ion batteries safely.

Lithium-ion batteries power the devices we rely on every day. These batteries can be found in cell phones, tablets, laptops, electric scooters and bikes, toothbrushes, and backup batteries. When purchased and used correctly, lithium-ion batteries can provide a valuable service, but there is a risk of fire and injury if uncertified batteries or chargers are used.

Lithium-ion Battery Safety

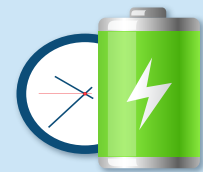
Protect your Electric Bike and Electric Scooter



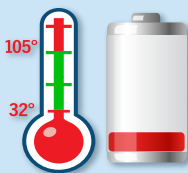
Lithium-ion batteries power many portable consumer electronics, electric vehicles, and even store power in energy storage systems. In normal applications, the Li-ion batteries are safe, but if **damaged** or **overheated**, they can **cause fires**.



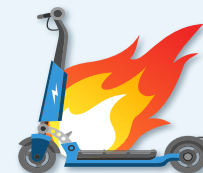
Only use **manufacturer-provided** or **authorized** batteries and charging equipment. All equipment should be certified by a **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory**.



Remove the battery or charging device from power **once charging is complete** to avoid overheating



Keep batteries and charge them at **room temperature**. Issues can occur **below 32° F** or **above 105° F**



Keep batteries and devices from **heat sources** or **anything that can catch fire**



Do not store batteries in **vehicles** or **direct sunlight**



All **maintenance** on batteries or e-mobility devices should be **completed by a qualified professional**



Discontinue using devices or batteries that have an unusual odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, are leaking, smoking, or not keeping a charge.



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