

Consider electrical safety before and during your vacation



BEFORE LEAVING FOR VACATION, MOST PEOPLE FOCUS ON PACKING AND TRAVEL PLANS, BUT PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY IS JUST AS IMPORTANT. TAKING A FEW SIMPLE STEPS CAN HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, DAMAGE, OR ELECTRICAL ISSUES WHILE YOU ARE AWAY.

At home before you leave

Avoid leaving lights on continuously while you are gone. Light bulbs and fixtures can become hot over time, increasing the risk of fire. Instead, use programmable timers or motion-sensing outdoor lighting to create the appearance that someone is home without keeping lights on constantly.

Unplug nonessential appliances and electronics. Items such as coffee makers, toasters, televisions,

and entertainment systems can be vulnerable to power surges or lightning strikes. Unplugging them reduces the risk of damage and helps prevent electrical fires.

Inspect cords and outlets before you leave. Look for frayed wires, cracks, or loose connections, and address any issues before traveling.

While you are away

Electrical safety does not stop once you leave home. When staying in a hotel, condo, or short-term rental, take a few moments to check for potential hazards.

Look for overloaded outlets, excessive use of extension cords, outlets that feel warm, or unusual odors that could indicate overheating. If you notice a

concern, report it to management immediately. If the issue is not resolved, consider finding another place to stay.

On the road

If you are involved in a crash that brings down a utility pole or power lines, remain inside your vehicle. Downed lines may still be energized and pose a serious risk of electrocution. Warn others to stay away, and call 911. Only exit the vehicle when emergency responders confirm it is safe.

A few small actions can make a significant difference in reducing electrical risks while traveling. Preparing your home, staying aware of hazards, and knowing how to respond in an emergency can help keep your vacation safe.