

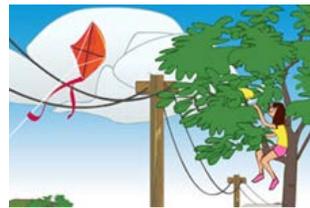


You don't have to contact a powerline directly for it to seriously injure or kill you. Electricity can jump or "arc" through the air to an object you're touching or holding and cause a severe shock. Follow these safety tips, stay well away from powerlines and respect the power.

1. **Look up, look out and locate powerlines** when cleaning eavestroughs and windows, working on the roof, painting the house or pruning trees.
2. **Carry ladders horizontally**, never vertically, and check for overhead powerlines before putting them up.



3. **Call or click before you dig!** Contact [Ontario One Call](#) or your local electric utility to mark underground powerlines and other utility equipment before you start deck or fence-building or other landscaping projects.
4. **Plant trees away from overhead powerlines so they don't grow up into the powerlines.** If your trees have grown into the powerlines, contact your local utility. Do not trim trees around powerlines yourself.
5. **Flying Kites** - Always choose wide-open spaces where you can't see any powerlines and never attempt to retrieve a kite that is tangled in a powerline.



6. **Find a safe place to play** -Don't play near the green boxes on lawns or in parks. Never climb utility poles.
7. **Transformer stations** – Never climb fences to get into a transformer station. If your toy ends up inside a transformer station, call the local electric utility to get it for you.
8. **Tree climbing** – Never climb trees near powerlines. Look carefully for hidden powerlines covered by branches and leaves.
9. **Downed powerlines** – If you see a downed powerline stay back 10 metres or 33 feet (the length of a school bus) and call 9-1-1 immediately.



Storm-related electrical hazards

1. If you were cooking when the power went out, turn off the stove, oven or other cooking appliances right away.
2. Downed powerlines and flooding create electrical hazards in and around your home. Remember to stay back at least 10 metres (or the length of a school bus) from a downed powerline and call 9-1-1 and your local utility immediately to report it.



3. Stay out of your basement if flood water is higher than the electrical outlets, baseboard heaters, furnace or near the electrical panel. Call your local electric utility immediately to have power disconnected.



4. If a powerline lands on your vehicle, stay in the vehicle until emergency responders arrive. Exiting a vehicle in contact with a live powerline is extremely dangerous. Don't try to help someone if their vehicle is in contact with powerlines. Stay back 10 metres or 33 feet (the length of a school bus) and tell the person to wait until emergency responders arrive.
5. Don't clear snow, ice, tree branches or other storm debris until the power is disconnected or powerlines are repaired.
6. Portable generators, when used correctly, can provide security and comfort during power outages. Use only in dry, well-ventilated areas and never connect portable generators to electrical appliances or wiring components that have been affected by flood water.

