



## Stay safe when you're outdoors...

Safe gardening and yard cleanup is about safe digging and playing it safe around electricity this spring by taking precautions when heading outdoors.

Before you take out the hedge clippers and garden tools, think about the following:

- Look for overhead power lines, especially when carrying or climbing a ladder. Don't climb trees with power lines running through or near them.
- Use only ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets when you are outdoors and cover the outlets when not in use. Don't leave outdoor electrical tools unattended or plugged in when not in use.
- Use caution when using electric power tools, especially when trimming the hedges or using an electric lawn mower. Make sure you know where the cord is to avoid cutting through it.
- Keep kids away from the green metal electrical transformers that sit on cement pads in your neighborhood.
- Stay away from electric substations and don't climb fences surrounding them. The equipment is energized and dangerous.

- If you see a downed power line, always assume that it is energized and dangerous. Keep others away until help arrives.

Planning major outdoor improvements, or doing anything that requires digging?

### • Call Dig Safe® at 811 before you dig.

It's a free call that notifies participating utilities about your project. You mark the spot with white paint or flags, the utilities mark their lines with a corresponding color. It's important that you make the call, regardless of how small you may think the job is. It's the law!

## ... and indoors!

- Replace damaged or loose electrical cords.
- Use caution when using extension cords; don't run cords under carpets or across doorways. Consider adding circuits or outlets by a qualified electrician so you don't have to use extension cords.
- If you have small children, make sure your home has tamper-resistant receptacles and outlets.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for plugging an appliance into a receptacle

outlet. Plug only one high-wattage appliance into each receptacle outlet at a time to avoid overloading outlets.

- Only use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.
- Make sure you have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) in the kitchen, bathroom(s), laundry, basement, and outdoor areas.

### Light bulb standards have changed

All 100-watt incandescent light bulbs manufactured or imported after January 1, 2012 must be at least 25% more efficient and have a label on the package to explain brightness, annual operating costs and expected life span. This means that a 72-watt incandescent halogen or its equivalent—a 23-watt compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb—will replace, and be as bright as, the traditional 100-watt incandescent bulb.

This new label requirement helps consumers shop for light bulbs based on lumens (a measure of brightness) and by watts (a measure of energy use).

The standards for 75-watt bulbs will take effect in January 2013, while the 40 and 60-watt bulbs will go into effect in January 2014.

Just remember... When reading the label, the more lumens, the brighter the light bulb. For example, a standard 100-watt incandescent light bulb yields about 1,600 lumens compared to a 40-watt bulb that provides 450 lumens. A 23-watt CFL has about the same lumens as a 100-watt incandescent bulb and is more energy efficient. And if you have any questions ... just give us a call.

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There's a handy online payment question link located to the left of the page, if you have any questions.



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55 Weir Street, P.O. Box 870  
Taunton, MA 02780

### Customer service for electric customers

(508) 824-6976

### Outage-related call

(508) 824-3111

### Online customers

(508) 880-8657

### Administrative offices

(508) 824-5844

### Dig Safe issue

(888) 344-7233

### Office hours

Monday through Friday  
7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

### Payment locations

33 Weir Street  
Our office is open  
Monday through Friday

### Drop boxes

33 and 55 Weir Street  
(to the left of the front door)

Trucchi's Supermarket  
53 Tremont Street  
534 County Street

### TMLP Online help desk

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.  
Sunday closed

### Commissioners' meetings

Monday, June 11th at 4:00 p.m.

### Commissioners

Peter Corr, Chairman  
Mark Blackwell Sr.  
Joseph Martin, Secretary

### General Manager

Michael Horrigan