

Electrical Safety Tips

- **Downed Power Lines** -Mount Pleasant Power System strives to provide safe, reliable power to our customers, but there are circumstances that arise that could become dangerous such as storm damage to electrical equipment, equipment failure, high winds, and fallen trees. In the event you come upon a downed power line, please stay at a safe distance. DO NOT assume that those lines are harmless. Never touch a utility power line or anyone who is in contact with one. Contact MPPS immediately and stay at a safe distance until the area is cleared.
- **Downed Power Lines on/ around your vehicle**- In the event that you are trapped in your vehicle with power lines on or around your vehicle follow these instructions:



- Call MPPS immediately
- Move the vehicle to safety if at all possible
- If you can't move your vehicle safely, remain in your vehicle unless you are in danger
- Warn the public to stay away from your vehicle, anyone that comes in contact with the ground and your potentially energized vehicle could be in danger
- Stay in your vehicle until help arrives; if you must leave the vehicle do not touch the ground and any part of your vehicle at the same time
- Jump clear of downed lines with both feet together and hop to safety

- **Using Generators During Power Outages**- Generators can be a very good thing if they are used properly. Generators can provide electricity to customers in the event that a long power outage occurs. Never plug a generator into a wall socket in order to restore power, this creates back feed. The power created from your generator can energize your home circuits, go back through your utility service wires, and put high-voltage out on the electric system putting lineman and utility workers in danger. Please contact a licensed electrician if you would like a generator installed. Generator installations must meet NEC requirements.
- **Call 811 before you dig**- No matter if it is the smallest of projects, anytime you must break the soil, MPPS suggests that you call 811 before you dig. 811 will give you piece of mind letting you know what is beneath you. Failure to call 811 could put you in danger of coming into contact with energized electrical lines, high-pressure gas lines, water lines, etc.; not to mention costly repairs to the impacted utility.
- **Planting Trees Beneath Power Lines**- MPPS suggests that you avoid planting trees beneath power lines. It may be years down the road, but odds are that those trees will grow into the lines, which could result in lengthy power outages and damage to your home. Once encroaching upon high voltage lines, MPPS will trim back trees to ensure sustained reliability further down the line.
- **Flying Kites around Power Lines**— Kite flying is a tradition enjoyed by all ages, but remember to fly kites in open areas away from overhead power lines. If a kite string is wet, dirty, or contains conductive material the flow of electricity could track through the string and the person holding it. In the event that your kite gets hung up in an overhead power line drop the string and do NOT touch it or tug on the string . Call MPPS to avoid damage to equipment and for your safety.