



ADAMS COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

Electrical Hazards

- It is better not to use extension cords. If you feel you must use one, make sure that it is not frayed or worn.
- Do not turn extension cords under rugs or twist them around nails or hooks.
- Never overload a socket. Octopus outlets, outlet extensions that accommodate several plugs, are strongly discouraged.
- Do not use light bulb wattage which is too high for the fixture. Look for the maximum wattage on the label inside each fixture.
- Periodically check for loose wall receptacles, loose wires or loose lighting fixtures. Sparking means that you've waited too long.
- Allow air space around the TV to prevent overheating. The same applies to plug-in radios, stereo sets and powerful lamps.
- If a circuit breaker trips or a fuse blows frequently, immediately cut down on the number of appliances on that line.
- Be sure all electrical equipment bears the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) label.
- In many older homes, the capacity of the wiring system has not kept pace with today's modern appliances. Overloaded electrical systems invite fire. Watch for these overload signals: dimming lights when appliances go on, shrinking TV picture, slow heating appliances or frequent blown fuses. If you experience any of these signals, call a qualified electrician to get expert help.