

Spring Storm Safety Tips

Spring is here, and with it comes the potential for strong winds and flooding from heavy rain storms or melting snow. As we prepare for warmer weather, Halton Hills Hydro and the Electrical Safety Authority want to ensure that you and your family are prepared for potential electrical safety hazards, such as downed powerlines resulting from heavy winds and flooding.

In the community:



- ✓ Downed powerlines may be live. Stay at least 35 feet or 11 meters away as electricity can travel through water and the ground around powerlines. Immediately call 911 and then report any downed wires to Halton Hills Hydro at 519-853-3701. Stay well back.
- ✓ Flood waters can damage electrical equipment. In the event of a flood, assume electrical equipment is unsafe, and contact a licensed electrical contractor before reconnecting any equipment.
- ✓ If a powerline lands on your vehicle, remain in the vehicle until emergency responders arrive. Exiting a vehicle that has been contacted by a live powerline is extremely dangerous and potentially fatal. Similarly, do not attempt to assist someone in a vehicle touched by powerlines. Call 911 immediately and stay well back.

Around your home:



- ✓ Strong winds can bring trees, branches and other items down onto powerlines causing blackouts and electrically charged hazards. Inspect the trees surrounding your property and call Halton Hills Hydro at 519-853-3701 to trim branches away from overhead powerlines.
- ✓ Heavy rainfall in addition to melting snow and ice can contribute to flooding. Beware if water gets into your home as electrical systems may be affected. If you suspect damage to your electrical system, contact a licensed electrical contractor to make the necessary repairs. You can find a licensed electrical contractor in your area at <http://applications.dmtispatial.com/esa/>.
- ✓ When flood water rises above electrical outlets and/or power cords or approaches the area of your service panel, it could be energized. Contact Halton Hills Hydro at 519-853-3701 to disconnect the power immediately.
- ✓ Do not plug in or attempt to use electrical appliances that have been wet until



they have been checked by a licensed electrical contractor or serviced by the manufacturer.

For more information on electrical safety when stormy weather hits, visit: http://www.powerlinesafety.info/stormy_weather.php.

About Halton Hills Hydro

Halton Hills Hydro's mission is to provide electricity distribution excellence in a safe and reliable manner. It is our goal to provide our customers with the ideas, tools and information that gives them the power to make the best choices for their energy needs.

Our objectives are:

- Safety
- Reliability
- Competitive Rates
- Financial Metrics
- Conservation
- Environmental
- Community Focused
- Smart Grid Implementation

For more information on Halton Hills Hydro, connect with us at www.haltonhillshydro.com, on Twitter [@HHHydro](https://twitter.com/HHHydro) or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HaltonHillsHydro

About the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA)

The Electrical Safety Authority's (ESA) role is to enhance public electrical safety in Ontario. As a delegated administrative authority acting on behalf of the Government of Ontario, ESA is responsible for administering specific regulations related to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code, the licensing of Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians, electricity distribution system safety, and electrical product safety. ESA works extensively with stakeholders throughout the province on education, training and promotion to foster electrical safety across the province. More information on the Electrical Safety Authority can be found on its website, www.esasafe.com, through Twitter [@HomeandSafety](https://twitter.com/HomeandSafety) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ElectricalSafetyAuthority