

Electricity plays a key role in our lives. It's all around us – even overhead – so it's important to know how to play it safe around power lines and make power line awareness a vital part of your outside activities.

**FACT:**

Power lines that serve your home and businesses are not insulated like home appliance cords.

**FACT:**

Power lines carry extremely high amounts of electricity that can injure or kill on contact.

**FACT:**

The simplest rule is to know where your power lines are located and stay away.

**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

If you're planning to do some outdoor decorating, don't forget about underground utilities. More power lines are being installed underground. Contact with underground utilities can be as hazardous as contact with overhead lines.

Dig-ins can also be hazardous and costly. Call the nationwide one-call number at **811** at least three working days before you dig – it's the law. Calling **811** will connect you to the Palmetto Utility Protection Service (PUPS).

Utilities color code their markings as follows:  
APWA Uniform Color Guide for flags and marks

White	Proposed Excavation
Pink	Temporary Survey Markings
Red	Electric Power Lines, Cables Conduit and Lighting Cables
Yellow	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials
Orange	Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit
Blue	Potable Water
Purple	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
Green	Sewers and Drain Lines

If you have questions about power line safety, please call SCE&G at: **1-866-219-5563** or visit our Web site at **sceg.com**.



**Power Line Safety**

**Look up and live!**

# PLAY IT SAFE: POWER LINE SAFETY TIPS

Most of us know to stay away from power lines but sometimes we forget, or we forget to teach our children how to be safe around electricity. Here are some important safety tips to share with your family to help you play it safe around power lines.

## DOWNED POWER LINES

- Never touch or approach a downed power line. It may be live. Touching the line or even getting near it may allow electricity to pass through you to the ground, injuring or killing you. Call SCE&G immediately at **1-888-333-4465** (toll free) to report a fallen line.

## HIGH-FLYING

Kite flying should be fun, not fatal. Make sure high-flyers in your family know the hazards of kites in and around power lines.

- Fly kites in open areas, away from power lines and busy streets.
- When flying your kite, make sure you use a dry, nonmetallic string.
- If a kite gets snagged in a tree or power lines, let go of the string immediately and call SCE&G. Don't try to pull it loose or climb up after it.

## KEEP IT COOL

It's easy to keep your cool in the summer heat as long as there's a swimming pool nearby. If you're thinking about installing a pool in your yard or will be working around one, consider the following safety tips:

- Save yourself time and expense by calling an SCE&G representative to help you determine the safest location to install your pool with regard to nearby electric lines.
- A swimming pool, diving board and pool deck need to be a proper distance from power lines, in accordance with the National Electrical Code and National Electrical Safety Code.
- Be especially careful when using long-handled pool cleaners or rescue poles. You can avoid an electrical accident by making sure they are used at least 10 feet away from overhead wires.
- If your pool has already been installed, check to see that it isn't located too close to either underground or overhead lines. Call SCE&G at once if you believe it may be too close.

## THINGS IN HIGH PLACES

Installation and removal of ladders, antenna, metal poles and flagpoles is one of the most common types of power line contacts. Television antennas, CB antennas and any other type of pole can be fatal when they come in contact with power lines.

- When installing or removing any type of antenna or pole, always know where the power line is located.
- Get enough help to do the job safely.
- Make sure to plan your work well and work at least 10 feet from overhead lines.
- Aluminum ladders are awkward to handle. Whether you're installing or removing your antenna, painting,

cleaning gutters or working on the roof – be careful! Contact can injure or kill. If you need assistance, please contact SCE&G.

- When using a ladder or installing or removing an antenna or pole, make sure its distance away from any power line is at least 10 feet or twice its total height – whichever is greater. If the ladder, antenna or pole falls onto a power line, don't touch it. Instead call SCE&G for help.
- Keep in mind that poles and antenna tend to bend the further the end is from your grip, especially in windy conditions.
- Keep clear of power lines that cross lakes, ponds or other bodies of water. Water levels can fluctuate due to power generation and weather conditions, so operate at least 10 feet away.

## THINGS IN BLOOM

Tree trimming can involve a variety of dangers. These include power line contact with any type of trimming equipment.

- Be sure to locate the power lines around your trees before trimming and keep clear of them.
- If your trees need trimming and they are close to power lines, call SCE&G. A company representative will meet you at the site to determine the safest procedure for cutting branches.