"Electricity Can Be Quite Shocking!"

ELECTRICITY

Electricity can save lives and it can take lives. Defibrillators save lives by transmitting an electric shock to the hearts of people who suffer cardiac arrest. More often, however, electric shock is harmful – and sometimes fatal.

☹ Given enough voltage, electrical current can stop your heart.

☹ Electricity can also be converted into heat by the body and literally cook you. This can happen even at a fairly low voltage, as long as the power is high enough to heat the body faster than it can get rid of the generated heat.

CAN TURN YOU OFF

Here are a few safety tips and basic precautions to take:

☞ Flammable and combustible materials, such as thinners, oils and solvents should be located a safe distance away from potential ignition sources.
☞ Avoid using any electric hand tool, appliance or machine while touching wet objects or materials.
☞ Work areas should be kept clean and free of ignitable debris.
☞ Always unplug or disconnect appliances, electric hand tools and machinery before cleaning, servicing, or repairing them.
☞ Be familiar with the location of breaker boxes and fuse panels.
☞ Before you move or administer first-aid to someone who has contacted energized paths, shut off the current and separate the victim from the source of electricity, as long as you can do so safely! **NEVER(!)** touch a person who has been shocked until you are certain they are not in contact with any electrical current.
☞ Never apply water to electrical fires. "C" rated fire extinguishers are designed for electrical fires.
☞ Immediately report any unsafe electrical conditions at your place of work.
☞ Follow manufacturer's instructions for all electrical equipment.
☞ Leave electrical repairs to trained and qualified personnel.
☞ Don't tough any electrical equipment with wet or sweaty hands, or if you're standing on a wet surface.
☞ Don't overload circuits or outlets.
☞ Use extension cords only when necessary and make sure they are rated high enough for the job.
☞ Use waterproof cords outdoors.
☞ Check cords to make sure insulation is in good condition.
☞ Don't run cords across walkways where they can be damaged.
☞ Make sure electrical equipment is locked and tagged out before any repairs are made.