



# Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office



May

## Prevention Bulletin

2025

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ESFI is excited to announce the theme for our National Electrical Safety Month 2025 campaign: “Electrification: E-Mobility.” The materials for this year’s campaign explain how the rapid advancements made to emerging technology, most notably electric vehicles, require further electrification and safe, efficient devices that can support this increased energy demand.

The campaign resources include information on preparing your home or business for electric vehicles, how to charge them properly and safely, and information on electric vehicle adapters. Addressing the demands emerging technologies have on your home keeps you safe and allows you to tap into efficient energy. Information is provided to help you reduce your energy dependency and waste. The materials also investigate common workplace electrical hazards and how to avoid them. Contact with or exposure to electricity is one of the leading causes of workplace fatalities. ESFI provides a variety of video shorts and infographics to address these hazards and prevent workplace injuries and fatalities.

“The future of energy is now,” said ESFI President Brett Brenner. “In order for the electrical industry to meet the needs of society, safety will be imperative for success and growth.”

Electrical safety awareness and education among consumers and workers will prevent electrical fires, injuries, and deaths. For more electrical safety resources, visit the ESFI website.

[www.esfi.org/program/national-electrical-safety-month/#:~:text=ESFI%20is%20excited%20to%20announce,electrification%20and%20safe%2C%20efficient%20devices](http://www.esfi.org/program/national-electrical-safety-month/#:~:text=ESFI%20is%20excited%20to%20announce,electrification%20and%20safe%2C%20efficient%20devices)

# Workplace Safety: Avoid Common Electrical Hazards

Contact with or exposure to electricity is one of the leading causes of workplace fatalities. Follow these tips to avoid electrical injuries.

## Overhead Power Line Contact

**46%** of all electrical fatalities are caused by contact with overhead power lines

**57%** of overhead power line fatalities were in non-electrical occupations



Always assume all lines are **live** and dangerous



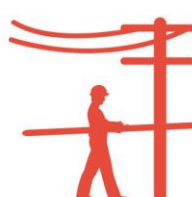
Always look up; **be aware** of overhead power lines



Keep yourself and equipment at least **10 feet** away from overhead power lines



Do not touch anything that is **in contact** with overhead power lines



Carry equipment, including ladders, **horizontally** to avoid contact with power lines



Stay at least **35 feet** away from downed power lines

## Accidental Contact with Energized Conductors or Parts

**45%** of all electrical fatalities were caused by working on or near energized conductors or parts

**74%** of these fatalities were in electrical occupations



Always **test for voltage** before you perform work. Be sure to also test the area around the equipment you are working on to avoid accidental contact with energized equipment



Always perform a **site and risk assessment** before conducting work. Hazards exist on and near the equipment you are working on



When possible, **turn off power** before conducting work



Follow proper **lockout / tagout** procedures



Avoid **complacency**. Every job is different, make sure you **follow the hierarchy** of controls and other electrical safety work practices on every job

## Electrical Safety in the Workplace

**69%** of all electrical fatalities involved **non-electrical** occupations



Know when to say when. If you feel unsafe performing a job, say something



Be aware of **potential electrical hazards** in the workplace. Avoid electrical rooms and other potentially hazardous areas



All electrical work should be completed by **qualified workers** with proper training



GFCI protection should be installed where **electricity and water** may come in contact

**5** sources accounted for **92% of all electrical fatalities**

Working on energized parts



Ground fault



Overhead power lines



Unexpected contact with electricity



Damaged wiring



Please **share** this **free** resource to save lives



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[www.twitter.com/ESFIdotorg](https://www.twitter.com/ESFIdotorg)



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# Lithium-ion Battery Safety

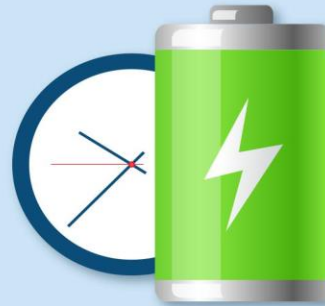
Protect your Electric Bike and Electric Scooter



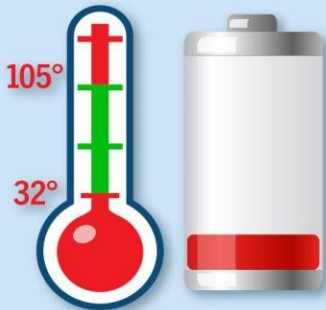
Lithium-ion batteries power many portable consumer electronics, electric vehicles, and even store power in energy storage systems. In normal applications, the Li-ion batteries are safe, but if **damaged** or **overheated**, they can **cause fires**.



Only use **manufacturer-provided** or **authorized** batteries and charging equipment. All equipment should be certified by a **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory**.



Remove the battery or charging device from power **once charging is complete** to avoid overheating



Keep batteries and charge them at **room temperature**. Issues can occur **below 32° F** or **above 105° F**



Keep batteries and devices from **heat sources** or **anything that can catch fire**



Do not store batteries in **vehicles** or **direct sunlight**



All **maintenance** on batteries or e-mobility devices should be **completed by a qualified professional**



Discontinue using devices or batteries that have an unusual odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, are leaking, smoking, or not keeping a charge.



Please share this **free** resource to save lives



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[www.youtube.com/ESFI.org](https://www.youtube.com/ESFI.org)

# Prepare your Home or Business for Electric Vehicles



Thinking about purchasing an electric vehicle? Make sure your home or business is prepared for electric vehicle charging.

## Charging Types

Charging types vary based on the amount of electricity used and how fast they charge



### Level 1

120v. Standard home outlet. 3-5 miles of range per hour



### Level 2

240v. Requires EV charger installation. 10-20 miles of range per hour



### Level 3

Available at businesses only. 80% charge in 20-30 minutes

**FIRE AND SHOCK HAZARD:** Never use an extension cord when charging electric vehicles. Doing so may lead to fires or electric shocks.



## Prepare your Home or Business



Have a **qualified electrician** complete a site assessment to ensure your home or business has the right electrical capacity for EV charging



Ensure you have enough space for an EV charger



Make sure your charger and charging cords are certified by a **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL)**



Make sure you have adequate **GFCI** protection to avoid electrical shocks



All EV charger installations and site assessments should only be completed by **qualified electricians** who have been trained and are insured and bonded to complete electrical work

## Use and Maintenance



Follow manufacturer's instructions when charging electric vehicles



Properly store charging cables to avoid damage which could lead to electric shocks and fires



Cover EV charging stations to avoid **water damage**. Refer to manufacturer guidelines for more information



Make sure EV chargers are properly maintained. Avoid vehicle contact with chargers and never use a charger with **visual damage**

Please **share** this **free** resource to save lives



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[www.twitter.com/ESFI.org](https://www.twitter.com/ESFI.org)



[www.youtube.com/ESFI.org](https://www.youtube.com/ESFI.org)





## Garden Safety Top Tips

Lots of us are spending more time in the garden. Prevent accident and injury by following our top tips for garden safety!

- 1 Always wear gardening gloves to protect yourself from blisters, sharp tools and injury from plants or insects
- 2 Warm up before gardening, just like any exercise. Avoid repetitive motions and vary your tasks. Take plenty of breaks
- 3 Exercise caution with power tools e.g. lawnmower, strimmer & hedge-cutter. Keep pets & kids at a safe distance and watch out for wires in case of tripping or cutting
- 4 Avoid bending! Bending down is very bad for our backs. Make sure to kneel down if you are working on lower ground
- 5 Make sure you lift equipment correctly and don't lift anything that is too heavy. Lift with your knees, not your back
- 6 Be Sun Smart! Wear a sunscreen at all times that is at least SPF 30 and make sure to reapply every 2 hours or after sweating
- 7 Watch out for pests! Avoid insect bites and stings by covering your skin and using an insect repellent
- 8 Stay hydrated! Have water with you at all times and make sure to drink plenty of it, especially if it's warm
- 9 Don't do the big jobs alone! If you're planning on climbing a ladder or building a shed, make sure someone helps you
- 10 Treat injuries straight away. If you cut yourself, clean and dress it immediately. Don't continue to work if injured

*Have a Happy & Healthy Summer!*

# Get Leaf Savvy

If you're taking a walk on the wild side or trimming brush in your yard, be wary of poison oak, sumac and ivy. Look out for these leaves.

## Poison Oak



3 leaves  
(never 5)

Looks similar to  
poison ivy

No thorns

Leaf groups  
grow in an  
alternating pattern  
on the stem

Grows in dry, sandy  
areas as a vine or  
small shrub

Less common  
than poison ivy

## Poison Sumac



Grows as a small  
tree only in wet areas  
(often in mud)

**Red** stems

Oblong, tapered leaves

Wavy or smooth-  
edged leaves (not  
saw-toothed)

Parallel rows of  
upward growing  
leaves

May have **pale yellow**  
or **green flowers** in  
spring or summer,  
**green berries** in fall

## Poison Ivy



3 leaves  
(never 5)

no thorns

Leaves may be  
rounded or have  
points

Leaf groups grow  
in an alternating  
pattern on the stem  
(not directly across  
from each other)

Leaves may be **red**  
or **green**, even  
**slightly yellow**

Very common

## Virginia Creeper



Five leaves

Not poisonous

Often mistaken  
for poison ivy

Grows as a vine





# Plant Guide For Pet Owners



## Poisonous Plants

- Daffodil
- Castor Bean
- Easter Lily
- Sago Palm
- Star Gazer Lily
- Tiger Lily
- Cyclamen
- Azalea



## Toxic Plants

- Aloe
- Begonia
- Bird of Paradise
- Bougainvillea
- Calla Lily
- Carnation
- Chrysanthemum
- Coleus
- Cosmos
- Dumb cane
- Elephant ear
- Fleabane
- Gardenia
- Geranium
- Hibiscus
- Hydrangea
- Iris
- Mother-In-Law Tongue
- Pansy
- Peace Lily
- Pinks (Dianthus)
- Plumbago
- Poinsettia
- Primrose

## Pet-Friendly Plants

- Alyssum
- Blue Daisy
- Boston Fern
- Bottlebrush tree
- Camelia
- Canna
- Ceolsia Plumosa
- Christmas Cactus
- Coreopsis
- Echevaria Succulents
- Gerber Daisy
- Gloxinia
- Impatiens
- Marigold
- Nasturtium
- Pampas Grass
- Persian Violet
- Petunia
- Polkadot Plant/Baby Tears
- Rose
- Snap Dragons
- Spider Plant
- Star Jasmine
- Sunflower
- Sword Fern
- Viola
- Zinnia



# YADKIN COUNTY



## EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office is proud to serve the citizens of Yadkin County by promoting the importance of fire safety through education, inspections, and investigations. The Fire Marshal's Office functions under the direction of the emergency services director.

The Fire Marshal's Office is responsible for various duties, which include:

- County Fire Inspection Program
- Fire / arson investigations
- Budget preparation
- Coordination between county government and county fire departments
- Fire prevention programs
- Response to emergency situations

**Ricky Leonard, Fire Marshal**

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**Emergency: 9-1-1**

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