



When Lightning Strikes: What to Do to Keep You and Your House Safe

WACO, Texas (April 13, 2006) - In an instant, lightning can cause power outages and set houses on fire - so when bad weather hits, homeowners need to be ready.

“It’s crucial to understand the dangers of lightning because it happens so quickly,” said Rick Cross, president of Mr. Electric®. “Being proactive instead of reactive is the key to protecting your home.”

Mr. Electric encourages homeowners to take these preparations before severe weather arrives:

- Keep batteries on-hand for flashlights and radios in case of a power outage
- Make sure smoke alarms are installed and in good working condition
- Have a qualified electrician install an emergency standby generator or a transfer switch for a portable electric generator

But when a thunderstorm threatens Cross recommends these electrical safety tips to keep homeowners and their homes safe:

- Unplug TVs, computers, CD players, clock radios and all appliances
- Use surge protectors on all electronic devices
- Don’t talk on the phone (except in an emergency) while it’s lightning
- Don’t take a shower or a bath while it’s lightning
- Use flashlights instead of candles

About Mr. Electric®:

Established in 1994, *Mr. Electric* is a global franchise organization providing electrical installation and repair services. Recognized by Entrepreneur magazine among its “Franchise 500,” Mr. Electric franchisees provide these services to both residential and commercial customers at more than 160 locations worldwide. *Mr. Electric* is a subsidiary of The Dwyer Group, Inc. For further information or to find the location nearest you, visit www.mrelectric.com.

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