



7 STEPS TO ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Learn them and pass them on!

1

10 Meters to Safety

Stay back at least 10 meters or 33 feet from any downed power line, exposed underground cable, or where there is contact with an overhead power line. Depending on voltage, this distance may increase up to 32 meters or 105 feet.

2

Where's the Line?

Workers who operate machinery or equipment that could come in contact with overhead or underground powerlines need to look up and check for overhead powerlines, or obtain underground locates before beginning work. Remember: Always ask yourself - "WHERE'S THE LINE?"

3

Know Your Limits

When operating machinery or equipment in close proximity to power lines, always maintain the limits of approach: from three to seven meters or 10-23 feet depending on the voltage. For proper safe working distances contact Worker's Safety and Compensation Commission. In keeping with the NWT OH&S Code (Schedule Y), if equipment COULD come closer than the minimum distances, you must contact Northland Utilities (Yellowknife 1-867-873-4865 / Hay River 1-800-264-5313) before beginning work.

4

Don't Hang Around Operating Equipment

Stay at least 10 meters or 33 feet away from equipment operating near power lines because if it contacts an energized line, the electricity will go to the ground. The operator should be on the vehicle with everyone else clear of the vehicle when a boom is in motion. If you must approach, ensure the equipment is not operating.

5

Shuffle or Hop, Don't Step

If the machinery you are operating contacts an energized line, move it away from the line to break contact. If this can't be done, remain on the machine. If there is an uncontrollable fire, jump off the machine keeping your feet together. Never contact the machine and the ground at the same time. Once clear of the machine, shuffle away, never allowing the heel of one foot to move beyond the toe of the other, or, hop with both feet together to a minimum distance of 10 metres or 33 feet.

6

Call Before you Dig

Whenever digging or drilling is to occur, you must determine the location of all underground services. Call Northland Utilities before you dig (Yellowknife 1-867-873-4865 / Hay River 1-800-264-5313). If a cable is accidentally dug up, move the digger bucket clear of the cable, stay out of the trench and call Northland Utilities. If the machine can't be moved, keep workers 10 meters or 33 feet away and have the operator remain on the vehicle. In the case of fire, follow the "Shuffle or Hop, Don't Step" rule.

7

Don't Become a Victim

Always call your local emergency services when someone is injured in an electrical accident. If they are still in contact with the electrical source and you touch them, you could be seriously injured or killed. Keep everyone back, a minimum distance of 10 meters or 33 feet and have someone call for help immediately.