



## News Release

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### **Top Ten Safety Tips for the New Year** *Oncor urges consumers to make these electrical safety resolutions*

**DALLAS (Jan. 17, 2007)** – With 2008 in full swing, people across North Texas are planning to make this year better than the last. At Oncor, one resolution is the same each year – make safety the company's No. 1 priority.

Electrical safety should be practiced year-round. As part of its year-long safety awareness campaign, Lifetime of Safety, Oncor wants consumers to remember these "Top Ten" important safety tips in 2008:

1. **Stay away from downed power lines.** Treat all fallen lines as if they are energized and deadly. Call 9-1-1 to report the situation and keep other people and pets away.
2. **Leave tree trimming to the professionals.** Every year in Texas, people are injured or even killed when they climb or prune trees near power lines. Tree limbs in-contact with power lines can act as conductors. A person can be seriously injured if contact is made.
3. **Observe all warning signs.** Teach children not to play near electric equipment or to enter areas marked "Danger," "High Voltage" or "Keep Out."
4. **Don't run extension cords under rugs, carpets or furniture.** Extension cords can cause fires if overheated.
5. **Replace light bulbs with bulbs of equal or lesser wattage.** Follow the manufacturer's warnings for appropriate wattage to avoid overheating.
6. **Call 1-800-DIG-TESS before digging 16 inches or deeper.** State law requires the call to help prevent coming into contact with underground electric and gas lines.
7. **Don't overload outlets and extension cords.** Overloading, or plugging in too many appliances, can cause fires.
8. **Turn off lamps whenever a room will remain unoccupied for an extended period of time.** Not only does this conserve energy, but lamps might overheat, causing a fire that no one would be present to notice.
9. **Protect appliances from voltage surges or drops—plug them into surge protectors.** Surge protectors should bear the seal of a nationally recognized certification agency.
10. **Make sure electrical appliances are not placed where they might get wet.** Water can damage electrical parts and cause them to become grounded, posing a risk for electric shock hazards or overheating.

For more electric safety tips from Oncor's Lifetime of Safety program, visit [www.oncor.com/safety](http://www.oncor.com/safety).

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Oncor is an electric distribution and transmission business that provides power to more than 3 million homes and businesses and operates more than 115,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines in Texas. Information about Oncor can be obtained by going directly to [www.oncor.com](http://www.oncor.com).

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