

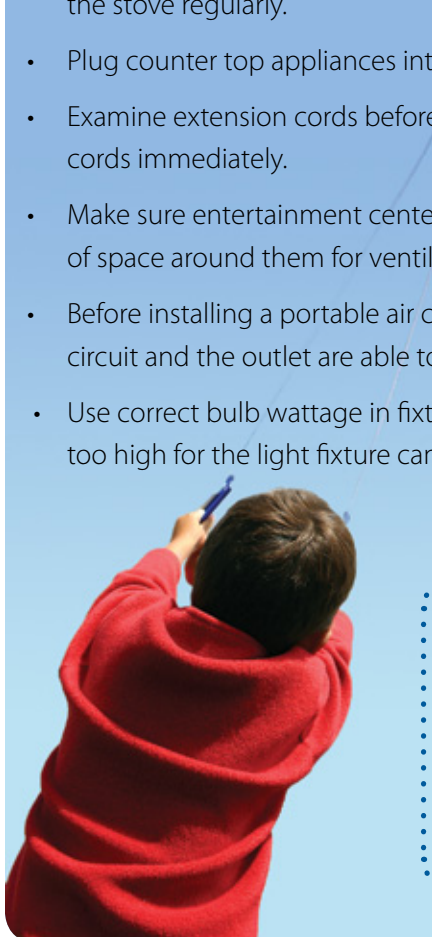


May is **ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH**

“Electricity is all around us in our homes,” says Nathan Worsham, safety and compliance coordinator for Wiregrass Electric Cooperative. “We tend to take it for granted, and as a result we can forget to respect it and the power it has.” He says that is why National Electrical Safety Month is so important.

“This gives us an opportunity each May to really think about ways to keep ourselves safe when using electricity,” Worsham says. Here are some tips for safe electricity use in the home, from the Electrical Safety Foundation International:

- Keep your stove and oven clean. Clean the exhaust hood and duct over the stove regularly.
- Plug counter top appliances into GFCI-protected outlets.
- Examine extension cords before each use. Replace cracked or damaged cords immediately.
- Make sure entertainment centers and computer equipment have plenty of space around them for ventilation.
- Before installing a portable air conditioner, make sure that the electrical circuit and the outlet are able to handle the load.
- Use correct bulb wattage in fixtures. Light bulbs with wattages that are too high for the light fixture can overheat the fixture and start a fire.

A child wearing a red hoodie is seen from behind, looking up at a pink kite flying in the sky. The kite is on a string that extends from the child's hands towards the top of the page.

For more information about electrical safety, visit wiregrass.coop and click on My Community, then Educational Outreach.

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