

6 Safety Rules to Live By

ComEd developed these six safety reminders for you to be aware of the risks where you live and work.

Electricity is an essential service, but it can be dangerous if not properly used. Please use safety guidelines. They will protect you, your family, and your employees.



that may bring yourself, your equipment and anything you carry within ten feet of a power line, call **ComEd at 1-800-Edison-1**.

For more information regarding location of underground utility lines in your neighborhood or work area, call 811.

Backfeed Hazard !! Home Generators and Electrical Safety

Improper use of a generator can threaten the lives of your family, neighbors, and utility crews trying to restore service due to **backfeed electrical energy** that can cause electrocution. "Backfeed" occurs when electrical conductors, like wires, are inadvertently energized by another energy source such as a generator. When using a generator for your house, make sure the main breaker or fuse on the service panel is switched to "Off." If the generator is plugged into a household circuit without switching the main breaker to "Off", the electrical current will reverse, go back through the circuit to the outside power grid, and energize power lines in other buildings or homes without the knowledge of utility workers or other individuals, putting them at risk of possible electrocution.

For more **ComEd** safety information, log on to www.comedsafety.com.

We're committed to the safety of our employees and customers.

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Safety Around Power Lines

Protecting you, your employees, and your families



ComEd's 6 Safety Rules to Live By

1. Always assume power lines are live. This applies to power lines on utility poles as well as those entering your home or buildings. Even momentary contact can injure or kill. Always keep yourself, your equipment and anything you carry at least 10 feet from power lines. If using a crane or derrick in construction, you may be required to maintain 20 feet of clearance or greater. Consult www.osha.gov for requirements. Even though you may notice a covering on a line, NEVER assume it is safe to touch. Stay Away. Stay Alive.

2. Never stand ladders near power lines. When working on or near ladders, keep all tools, the ladder, and anything you carry well away (at least 10 feet) from power lines.

3. Keep all cranes, scaffolding and high reach equipment away from power lines. Contact with a power line can cause serious burns or electrocution. Remember to work a safe distance from all power lines. When working in proximity to power lines keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet from power lines. If using a crane or derrick in construction maintain a clearance of 20 feet from power lines. Consult www.osha.gov for clearances for all voltages.

4. Keep yourself and others away from any fallen power lines. You never know when they might be live. Call ComEd at 1-800-Edison-1 right away and report the location of the downed wires. If a line falls on your car, stay in your car. If you must get out of the car, jump clear, do not touch any part of your car and the ground at the



5. Do not climb or trim trees near power lines. Keep children from climbing trees near power lines. Hire a qualified contractor to trim trees near power lines. If you have any questions about removing limbs or trees near power lines, call ComEd at 1-800-Edison-1.

6. You are required by law to call 811 to locate gas, electric and telephone lines before you dig. Whether you are planting a tree, building a fence or laying foundation, contacting a line with a shovel or pick can damage power lines – and injure or kill.

If you plan to do any work near service lines to your home, please consult the Residential Electric Service Installation guide (page 26) for the appropriate clearances. The guide can be found on the ComEd homepage at www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Documents/NewBusiness/RedBook101007_InOrder1.pdf

This guide provides the minimum clearances listed at right. Exercise extreme caution near live wires. Do not attempt to measure exact distances to live wires due to danger of electrocution.

Service Clearances

Minimum Clearances for Overhead Service
(120, 120/208 or 120/240 Volts)

Location	Minimum
Over streets, alleys, parking lots, public driveways, or over commercial, industrial, and farm private property driveways	18
Over residential private property driveways	12
Spaces accessible to pedestrians only	10
Above or below balconies and roofs* accessible to pedestrians	11
Above or below roofs* not accessible to pedestrians	3 f
Horizontal clearance from windows, porches, balconies, fire escapes, signs or any part of a building normally accessible to individuals (including access for maintenance)	5 f
Horizontal clearance from communication or signal wires at the building	1 ft

Conductors are not permitted to pass over any swimming pool or containing flammable materials

Attachments cannot be made on chimneys.

Service wire attachment shall not exceed 25 ft. above the ground

* A roof, balcony or area is considered accessible to pedestrians if access is through a doorway, ramp, stairway or permanently-mo

For higher voltages or variance from these clearances, contact your representative at 1-800-Edison-1.