

Electricity makes our lives much easier but needs to be respected. Some signs that you may have an electrical problem are:

- The lights dim or flicker every time you turn on an appliance.
- Sparks appear when you insert or remove a plug.
- The electrical cord is warm.
- The breaker blows frequently.
- Bulbs burn out frequently.

HOW DO I STAY SAFE?

- Check your electrical appliances and wiring regularly for signs of wear.
- Replace all worn, old or damaged appliance cords immediately. Frayed wires can cause fires.
- Use extension cords for short periods of time and do not overload them.
- Use a quality power bar if you need to plug in multiple electronic devices.
- Never run cords under rugs or furniture.
- Purchase electrical appliances that meet the Underwriter's Laboratory Canada (ULC)  or CSA  standard for safety. Look for this logo on all your electrical appliances.
- Leave at least three feet of space around your space heater and unplug when not in use.
- Never plug a space heater into an extension cord.
- Never force a three-prong plug into a two-slot outlet.
- Never place clothing or towels on top of a light fixture or lamp. Light bulbs, especially halogen types, get very hot and can start fires.
- Use light bulbs that match the wattage listed on a light fixture. Using a higher wattage bulb can cause the fixture to overheat and start a fire.

