



# PREPARING FOR THE BIG HUNT

As hunting season approaches, excitement builds for time outdoors. But before you head into the woods, make sure electrical safety is part of your preparation checklist.

## **Before you climb that tree stand, look out for power lines.**

Never install a tree stand near a power line or on a utility pole. Electricity can arc through the air up to 10 feet from high-voltage lines. This means you don't even have to touch a wire to be at risk of electrocution.

Never shoot near or toward power lines, utility poles, transformers or substations. Stray bullets or pellets could damage equipment, possibly interrupting electric service. Even more concerning, they could drop a power line to the ground, causing a hazardous scenario: those who get within 50 feet of a downed line could be shocked or electrocuted.

## **Keep these tips in mind to stay safe:**

**Scout the area.** Before hunting, scout your area during daylight. Look for power lines, poles and electrical equipment. Note their locations to avoid them later.

**Power safely.** If you're using a portable electrical generator, don't use it inside a cabin or RV, or in a confined area. Make sure it's used outside with plenty of ventilation.

**Avoid aiming toward power lines or equipment.** A stray bullet could knock down a line, interrupt power or create a deadly hazard.

**Keep your distance.** Stay at least 10 feet away from overhead lines, poles and other electrical infrastructure when setting up or taking down tree stands.

**Never climb a utility pole.** Even if it looks like the perfect vantage point, don't do it. Poles carry high-voltage lines, and climbing them can be deadly.

**Don't use utility poles for support.** Tree stands or blinds should never be attached to or supported by power poles or electrical equipment.

**Watch for downed lines:** Stay at least 50 feet away from downed power lines or damaged electrical equipment. Call 911 or your utility immediately.

Learn more at: [Safe Electricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)

