

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

May is National Electrical Safety Month

Inadequate Wiring Hazards

Summer is upon us. Many people will be thinking of doing some of those pesky chores, or maybe building a new deck or fence or storage shed or...

This means that electrical tools may be used. I know there are cordless tools, but they have limitations. So, if you will be using extension cords, consider the following information.

120 Volt Extension Cord Rating					
Cord Description		Length	Gauge	Amps	Watts (Power)
16/3 Light Duty Cord	Note Power rating change from 8' to 100'.	8 Ft	16	13.0	1560
16/3 Light Duty Cord	Compare with tool requirements below	100 Ft	16	10.0	1200
14/3 Outdoor Extension Cord		100 Ft	14	13.0	1560
12/3 SJTW Outdoor Extension Cord		100 Ft	12	15.0	1800
10/3 T-Blade Extension Cord		100 Ft	10	20.0	2400

Common Household Tools or Appliances			
Tool/Appliance	Voltage	Amps	Watts(Power)
7-1/4" Corded Skil Saw	120	15	1800
21" Corded electric lawn mower	120	13	1560
6-Slice Convection Toaster Oven	120	12	1440
3200 Professional Hair Dryer	120	18.2	2184

What's it mean? That super cheap, light weight Wal-Mart cord may not be the best choice. An overloaded cord can short and start fires, or shock anyone who touches it. Is it worth that?



Risk Management 639-5249

Prepared by: W Young

May 13

