

Evergy Encourages Customers to Watch for Overloaded Outlets, Power Strips During National Fire Prevention Week

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – October 10, 2023 – This week is [National Fire Prevention Week](#) (October 8 –14). Evergy reminds customers that **electrical fires account for more than 51,000 fires each year** accounting for nearly 500 deaths and \$1.3 billion in property damage.

The National Fire Protection Association reports electrical fires are the second leading cause of house fires, behind cooking. Most electrical fires are caused by faulty electrical outlets or worn-out sockets that are not properly grounded. When it's time for repairs, all electrical work should always be done by a licensed and qualified electrician.

Aside from repairs done by a professional, there are additional actions people can take to help prevent electrical fires in their home.

- Do not overload electrical outlets.
- Do not plug a power strip into an extension cord, or into another power strip. Only plug power strips directly into a wall outlet.
- Do not plug an extension cord into a power strip.
- Check electrical cords often. Replace cracked, damaged and loose electrical or extension cords.
- Keep flammable objects away from outlets and cords. That includes curtains, furniture, decorations, etc.
- Major appliances should be plugged directly into a wall outlet. Never use an extension cord with large appliances.
- Use only power strips that have an internal circuit breaker. This is designed to shield your electronics and reduce the risk of fire.
- Make sure the power strip or electric cord you are using is rated for indoor vs. outdoor use.

About Evergy, Inc.

Evergy, Inc. (NASDAQ: EVRG), serves 1.7 million customers in Kansas and Missouri. Evergy's mission is to empower a better future. Our focus remains on producing, transmitting and delivering reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy for the benefit of our stakeholders. Today, about half of Evergy's power comes from carbon-free sources, creating more reliable energy with less impact to the environment. We value innovation and adaptability to give our customers better ways to manage their energy use, to create a safe, diverse and inclusive workplace for our employees, and to add value for our investors. Headquartered in Kansas City, our employees are active members of the communities we serve.

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