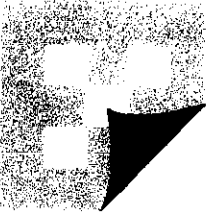


12/29/21



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Select Edition

All Sealants, Inc.

Week of 12/27/2021

Overhead Powerlines: Look Up Before it's too Late!

Overhead powerlines are both very common and very dangerous. Even though many new electrical installations are buried, especially in residential developments, overhead powerlines are still in widespread use. The dangers exist whether you're working near a large high-tension tower or near a service drop to a single house. Be on the safe side and consider all overhead lines to be energized powerlines.

pruning poles, etc. Leave extra space in case the powerline moves in the wind.

Remember that you don't need to touch a powerline to get electrocuted. If you are touching a tool, ladder, rope, or piece of equipment that comes in contact with a powerline, you're probably going to get zapped. In fact, nothing even has to **touch** the powerline at all; electricity can arc from the powerline to you, or to a ladder, a piece of equipment, or anything that will conduct electricity. The higher the voltage in the line, the farther the electricity can arc. Not **touching** the line isn't enough—you have to stay far enough away from it to avoid an arc.

Equipment and powerlines don't mix. Not only is the operator in danger, workers on the ground near the machine are also at risk. Machines like cranes, back hoes, aerial lifts, and dump trucks can easily reach high enough to contact powerlines. The safe clearance is based on the voltage being carried by the powerline. Always maintain the minimum clearance—remember that the electricity can arc to the boom or bucket. If a machine becomes energized, the electricity can arc to bystanders too, so they should keep away from the machine whenever possible. Taglines can conduct electricity so pay attention if you are guiding a load. **Always** allow some extra clearance—powerlines sway in the wind and can sag on hot days. If a piece of equipment hits a powerline, the operator should remain as calm as possible and stay in the cab until the power is turned off.

Any time you are working near powerlines you have to be aware of where you are, where your tools are and where the powerlines are. Keep a safe distance from power drops when working on a roof. Be very careful when carrying, moving, or setting up ladders. Check your clearance if you use tools with long handles like bull floats, squeegees,

Working near powerlines doesn't have to be hazardous to your health as long as everyone pays attention!

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SAFETY REMINDER
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Always treat every powerline as if it were energized and capable of electrocuting you.

NOTES:

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

S.A.F.E. CARDS® PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

REVIEWED SDS # _____ SUBJECT: _____

MEETING DOCUMENTATION:

JOB NAME: _____

MEETING DATE: _____

SUPERVISOR: _____

ATTENDEES: _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.