

# ELECTRICITY **SAFETY TIPS**

## From Your Building Inspector



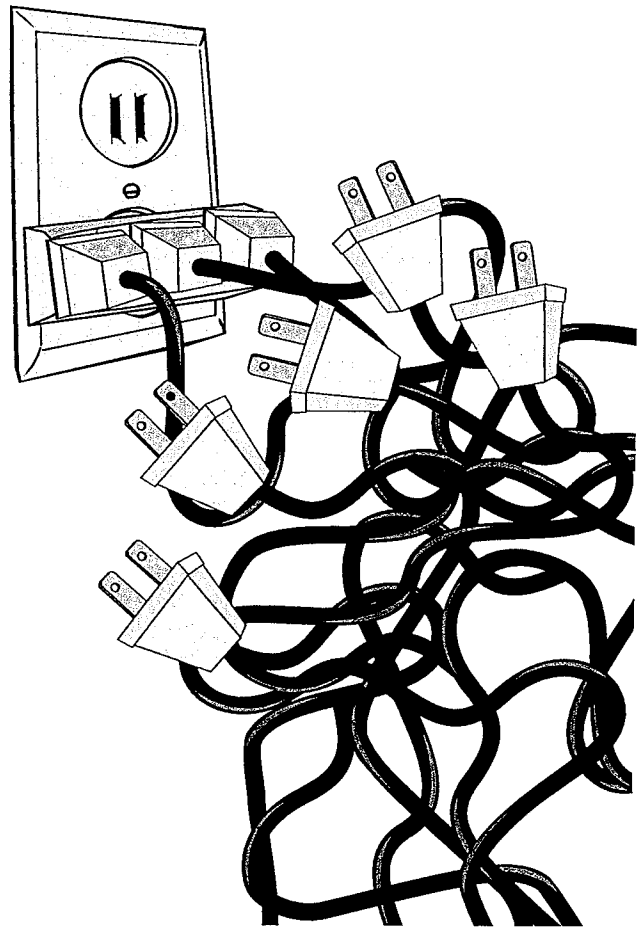
## **Don't Let Electrical Cords Create a Danger in Your House!**

Overloaded receptacle outlets and undersized electrical extension cords can cause a fire or electrocution danger.

### **Use Electrical Cords Safely**

- Never overload electrical cords or power strips. Electrical cords and power strips have a designated load capacity. Be sure the total amount of energy used by appliances and lights plugged into the cord or strip does not exceed that capacity.
- Use only listed power strips that have integral overload protection and have been tested by a product safety laboratory.
- Don't use appliances that have damaged cords.
- Extension cords should not be used as a substitute for permanently wired receptacle outlets.

*Electrical cords must be the proper wire size for the load they serve. Overloaded cords will become hot and can start a fire. Avoid permanent use of extension cords. Appliance cords and extension cords are susceptible to physical damage from foot traffic, furniture, house pets, swinging doors and many other causes, so protect them from damage. Contact your local building safety department for more information.*



# ALARM SAFETY TIPS

## From Your Building Inspector



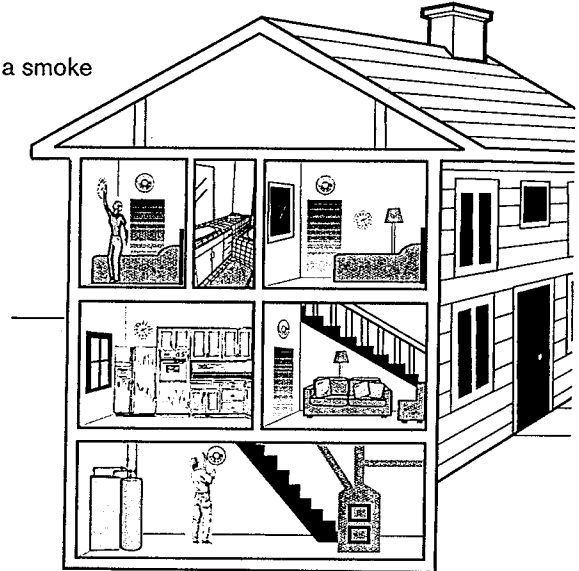
### The Sound of Safety

What is the most important thing to remember when installing a smoke alarm or carbon monoxide alarm?

Location, location, location!

#### Smoke Alarm Safety

- Install at least one smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside of each sleeping room area and on each level of a multi-level building.
- Test each smoke alarm regularly.
- Keep batteries fresh by replacing them annually.
- Check the manufacturer date on your smoke alarm. Consider replacing if it is over 10 years old.



*Smoke alarms can't help you unless they are functional and you can hear them. Building safety codes require smoke alarms. Contact your local building safety department for more information.*

#### Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Safety

- Consider installing a CO alarm in the hallway outside of each sleeping room area.
- Test each CO alarm regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Permanently wired or plug-in CO alarms should have a battery backup. Keep batteries fresh by replacing them annually.

*CO alarms can't help you unless they are functional and you can hear them. Building safety codes require CO alarms in all dwelling units that contain a fuel-fired appliance and dwelling units that have an attached garage. Contact your local building safety department for more information.*

