

The Building Inspector

Newsletter



Electrical

In this issue we will discuss several aspects of electricity, most importantly on money saving tips.

How to figure Kilowatt Hour:

Watts = Volts X Amps and the kilo in kilowatts stands for 1,000. Take the voltage, times the amperage, and divide the result by 1,000. This will give you the kilowatt usage per hour of any electric motor or other electric device. For example:

- Gas Furnace = 750 Watts
- Electric Water Heater = 5000 Watts
- Cordless Telephone = 15 Watts
- Coffee Maker = 900 Watts
- Computer = 250 Watts
- 13" Television = 70 Watts
- Vacuum Cleaner = 780 Watts
- Electric Clothes Dryer = 6000 Watts
- Washing Machine = 1000 Watts

To calculate how much a particular appliance uses go to:

<http://members.tripod.com/~masterslic/appliance.html>

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Quick Tip.....

Did you run out of furniture polish? No need to worry. Combine 1 cup of olive oil and 1/2 cup lemon juice in a spray bottle and shake well. Spray on a clean cloth and wipe onto the wood, then buff and polish dry with a fresh cloth!











The Home Energy Saver

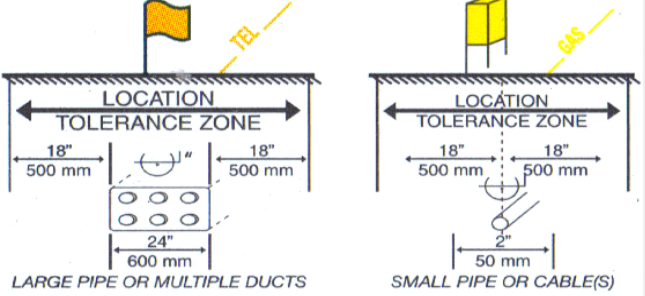
The Home Energy Saver is designed to help consumers identify the best ways to save energy in their homes, and find the resources to make the savings happen. The Home Energy Saver was the first Internet-based tool for calculating energy use in residential buildings. The project is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), as part of the national ENERGY STAR Program for improving energy efficiency in homes, with previous support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's PATH program, and the California Energy Commission's Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program.

Just go to www.hes.lbl.gov and enter your Zip Code to start saving energy and money today!

Have you seen these colored flags and wondered what they mean? Colored flags are used to identify underground utilities. So before you start to dig, call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service at 1-800-362-2764

UTILITY LOCATION & COORDINATION COUNCIL UNIFORM COLOR CODE

	RED - Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables
	YELLOW - Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials
	ORANGE - Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit
	BLUE - Potable Water
	PURPLE - Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
	GREEN - Sewers and Drain Lines
	PINK - Temporary Survey Markings
	WHITE - Proposed Excavating



OHIO UTILITIES PROTECTION SERVICE
Call 48 hours Before You Dig 1-800-362-2764

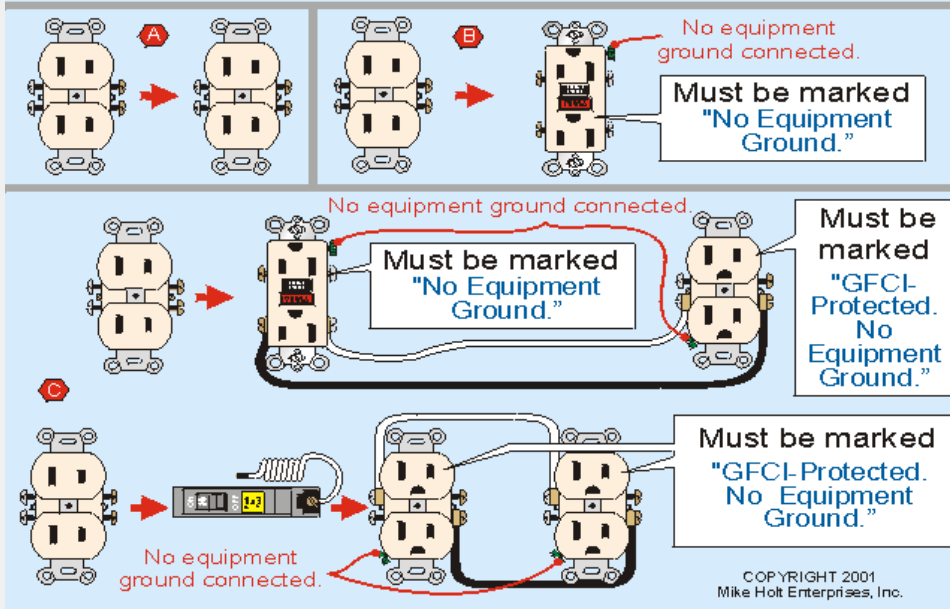
What is an Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI)?

An AFCI is a newly introduced circuit breaker that detects electrical arcing by monitoring the wave form of the voltage. Arcing generates high intensity heat, and expels burning particles that can easily ignite combustible materials. Arc faults occur when electrical products or wires are damaged, aged, or improperly used. An example is an extension cord that is repeatedly closed in a door, or a wire punctured by a nail or screw. Beginning in 2001, the NEC requires that all bedrooms be protected with AFCI's.

ADVANTAGES: Provides additional protection against the risk of fire and provides great protection in old house wiring where the condition of the wiring insulation is uncertain.

DISADVANTAGE: An AFCI is approximately 8 times the cost of a standard breaker. It cannot be used in old wiring systems that use shared neutrals.

Replacing Nongrounding-Type Receptacle
When No Ground Exists in Outlet Box
Section 210-7(d)(3)(c)



The above diagram shows acceptable means of changing a non-grounded type receptacle when no grounding exists in the outlet box.

* An electric oven uses one kilowatt-hour of electricity in about 20 minutes, but one kilowatt-hour will power a TV for 3 hours, run a 100-watt bulb for 12 hours and keep an electric clock running for 3 months.

* For each pound of aluminum recovered, Americans save the energy resources to generate about 7.5 kilowatt-hours of electricity. That's enough energy to meet the electric needs of a city the size of Pittsburgh, PA for six years.

* According to U.S. Department of Energy, the United States generated 3,800 billion kilowatt hours of electricity from coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear, hydroelectric and other source. (Mostly coal)

Did You Know.....?

There are about 30,000 nails in the construction of the average home!



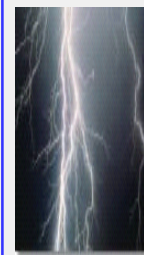
Around The Yard

Rake up the fallen leaves and use them as mulch for flowers and shrubs. Hardwood leaves such as oak and chestnut contain more plant food than those from softwood trees.

Also, apply protective mulches on the perennial garden after the ground has frozen an inch or two.



Weather Folklore



Thunder in the fall,
No winter at all.
Thunder in the spring,
Warm weather will bring.

Energy Facts and Figures

Your water heater is the second largest individual energy user in your home, accounting for about 15% of your utility bill.



*Lower the water temperature in the water heater from 140-degrees to 120-degrees and save up to 10% on the cost. You can check the temperature by holding a thermometer under the tap water.

*Insulate your water heater tank if it feels warm, as well as the hot water pipes to save up to 5% of the cost.

All the appliances you plug in add up to about one-third of your home's energy use, with the refrigerator and clothes dryer at the top of the list.



Refrigerator models manufactured before 1990 use twice as much energy as Energy Star qualified refrigerators.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs use about two-thirds less electricity. At the very least, install them in the lights that you leave on for more than two hours at a time.



Hearty Vegetable Soup

1 lb carrots, sliced
1 1/2 lb onions, coarsely chopped
4 lg stalks celery, sliced
2 lg garlic cloves, chopped
1 lb green cabbage, thinly sliced
3/4 lb green beans, cut
1 1/4 lb zucchini, thinly sliced
2 8oz bags baby spinach leaves
2 28 oz whole tomatoes in juice
1 48 oz can chicken broth
6 cups water
salt and pepper

- 1) Coat a 12-quart stockpot with nonstick cooking spray. Add carrots, onions, celery and garlic to pot over medium heat. Cook 8 minutes or until vegetables begin to soften, stirring often.
- 2) When carrots are tender crisp, add tomatoes with their liquid to the pot, breaking up tomatoes with the side of the spoon.
- 3) Add cabbage, green beans, chicken broth, water, 1 tbl spoon salt and pinch ground black pepper. Heat to boiling over high heat, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat, cover and simmer 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- 4) Increase heat to high and stir in zucchini and spinach, bring to boil. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer 10 minutes or until all vegetables are tender.
- 5) Cool slightly and serve.

