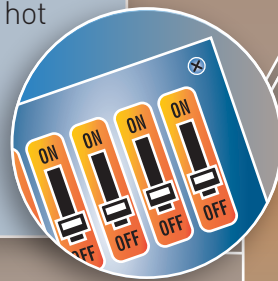


COTTAGE CLOSING ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS



Whether you're planning on powering down or leaving the electricity on over the winter, follow these simple safety tips to protect you and your cottage.

BEFORE POWERING DOWN Shut off the branch circuit breakers before you turn off the power at the main switch. If you have a fuse box, make sure you unplug or switch the power off to your pump, hot water tank and major appliances before shutting off power at the main switch. This will help protect them from damage when you power back up in the spring.



POWERLINES If branches start to grow too close to powerlines, have the trees trimmed. Remember, evergreen branches hang much lower in winter when covered with heavy snow. If you own the hydro poles on your property, hire a trained arborist to do the trimming. If they're owned by the electric utility, give them a call to advise that the trees need to be trimmed.



SPACE HEATERS Avoid the temptation to rely on space heaters in the pump pit for water systems that can't be completely drained. Unattended space heaters can cause a fire.



EXTENSION CORDS Store all extension cords in rodent-proof containers or bring them back home for winter storage. Don't leave extension cords outside or anywhere exposed to freezing temperatures. This may cause them to crack and cause a fire or shock the next time you use them.

