

Rochester Fire Department Monthly Media Blast

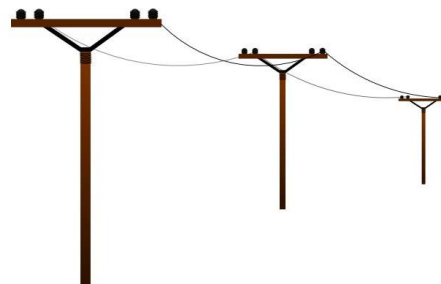


August 2019

- **Stay safe on and off campus:** College students will soon be heading back to campus for the fall, and parents are reminded to make sure their students have important safety equipment as they settle into dorms and off-campus housing. Most important are working smoke and CO detectors, as well as power strips for computers and lights. Appliances that draw higher amps (microwaves, refrigerators, toasters) should be plugged directly into a wall, and extension cord use should be avoided. College is the first time away from home for many young people, and they can stay safe by:
- Using flameless candles for decorations.
 - Staying in the kitchen while cooking.
 - Never cooking while tired or under the influence.
- These safety tips include off-campus housing, where four out of five college fire fatalities occur.



- **Downright dangerous:** The stormy weather this past month caused flooding and other damage around the region, including downed power lines. While these power lines are all around us and keep the lights on every day, they become very dangerous when compromised or damaged. And downed power lines could be live even if not arcing or sparking. The summer storms



are sure to continue, so RFD urges everyone to keep these safety tips in mind if you see a downed power line:

- Avoid touching downed power lines with your hands or any object.
- Avoid touching any person, car, fence or other object that is in contact with a downed power line.
- Stay at least 30 feet away.
- Avoid driving over a downed power line.
- Call 911 immediately, followed by your electrical utility company to report a downed power line.

Training Calendar

- **Fire training:** Friday, Aug. 9, 9 a.m.
 - RFD will be holding live fire training at the Regional Public Safety Training Center, located on 50th St. SE, east of St. Bridget's Rd. If you are interested in covering this training, please email us at FirePublicRelations@rochestermn.gov prior to the training.



For further information or for RFD media availability, please email us at FirePublicRelations@rochestermn.gov