



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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Ubiquitous in so many of our lives, electricity plays a central role in powering our homes, schools, and workplaces. While electricity offers tremendous opportunity to improve daily life, it also brings potential risks. During National Electrical Safety Month, let us increase awareness about electrical safety and do our part to prevent electrical accidents where we live, learn, and work.

Every year, electrical accidents cause tens of thousands of fires. These fires tragically result in hundreds of deaths as well as more than a thousand injuries and over a billion dollars in property damage. And electrical shocks injure or take the lives of hundreds more.

Each of us can take important steps to prevent electrical accidents and protect against fire and injury. I encourage all Americans to install and maintain smoke alarms and examine cords for damage and excessive wear. Make sure to have safety covers on electric outlets to protect small children from getting hurt and never overload outlets or power strips. Have a professional inspect your home's electrical system if it has been 10 years or more since your last inspection or if you notice warning signs of a potential problem—including dimming or flickering lights, flashes or showers of sparks, sizzling or buzzing sounds, and plugs that pull out of receptacles easily.

This National Electrical Safety Month, we reaffirm the importance of electrical safety and recommit to taking preventive measures to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.