

RG&E consumer news



Facts About Extension Cords

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An extension cord is exactly what its name implies, an extension of the house wiring system. The wiring system is designed to supply adequate electrical current where it is needed. An extension cord should be selected with this in mind also. The wire size, cord length, two- or three-prong plugs are specified by the requirements of the appliance you will use.

The amount of electricity a cord will carry is determined by the size of the wire and the length of the cord. A thin wire (No. 18) should be used only with lamps. These light-duty cords will carry 7 amps of electricity, but only in short lengths from the wall outlet. Higher capacity wires (no. 16 or No. 14) should be used with small appliances and power tools which require more electricity.

Avoid extension cords with some appliances

Some appliances should never be used with extension cords because their current draw is too high to be used safely this way. Major appliances such as dishwashers, space heaters and washers, and some small appliances such as irons and toasters are in this category. Check your appliance's use and care booklet if you are in doubt.

All extension cords should have the U.L. Seal of Approval which means they have been certified for safety, when used properly, by the Underwriters Laboratory.

Because of hazards associated with their use, power tools and extension

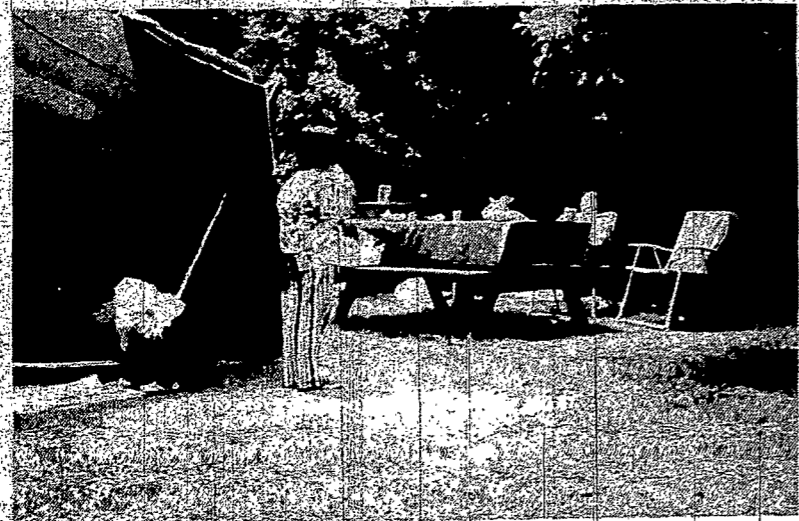
cords used with them must be grounded, as must all major appliances. Portable appliances used wherever moisture is present increases the possibility of a shock. With grounding of the appliance casing, a third, neutral wire provides the path of least resistance for escaping electricity to go into the ground. When touching a faulty appliance and also touching water, a person's body would become the path of least resistance if the appliance casing is not grounded.

Identify grounded cords

The three-wire grounded cords have a three-prong plug, the third prong attached to the neutral grounding wire. Wall outlets in older houses will not accept a three-prong plug. You can buy grounding adapter plugs to fit the older two-prong outlets. You must attach the grounding wire of the adapter to the center screw of the outlet cover. If you do this and if the wall outlet boxes are grounded then you will have an effective ground.

For more information about proper wiring call RG&E's Residential Department at 546-2700, Extension 2751.

Local Campsites Written Up In Camping Guide

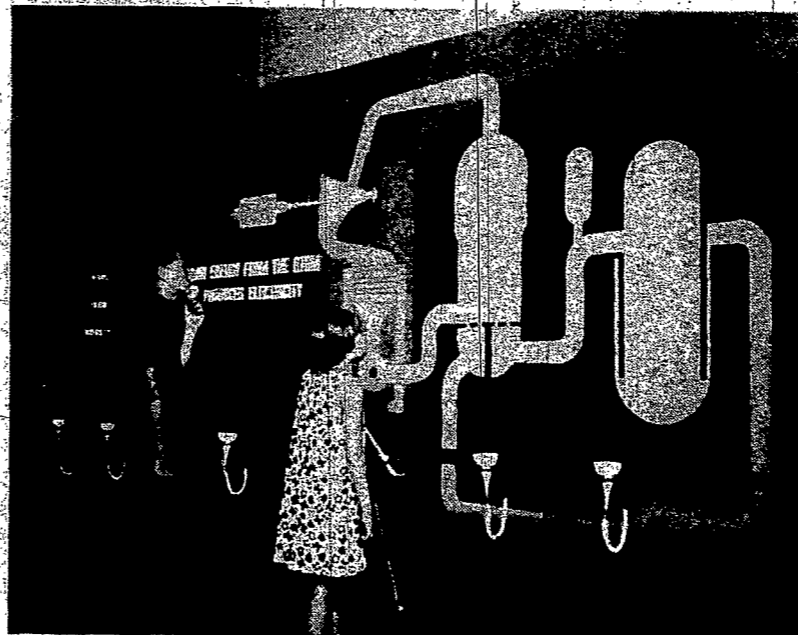


More and more people become camping enthusiasts every year. And this year will probably prove no exception. To help campers choose a campsite, RG&E has prepared the booklet *Camping In RG&E Country*. It describes 20 campsites, all located within the service area that

RG&E serves.

To get your booklet, *Camping In RG&E Country*, fill out the coupon on this page. The camping season is just beginning, so send in the coupon today and you will be well equipped to plan your camping days.

Come out to Brookwood And let us entertain you



Schoolchildren enjoy visiting the center.

Where can you find entertainment that is not very far away, doesn't cost much, has no parking problem, is educational and is something the whole family can enjoy? Answer: The Brookwood Science Information Center. It is located on beautiful Lake Ontario, 16 miles east of the city in Ontario, N.Y. There is no admission charge to the Center, and it has plenty of free parking.

Best of all, a visit to the Brookwood Science Information Center is an experience that the whole family can learn from and enjoy at the same time.

At Brookwood you and your family will learn a fascinating story. It's about the atom. How it splits. And how the energy from the splitting of the atom [a process known as nuclear fission] is used to produce the heat that is used in the generation of electricity.

But the most meaningful part of your visit to Brookwood will probably be your conversations with the staff members. They are ready to answer any questions you have about Ginna, nuclear power plants in general and about how RG&E plans to meet future energy needs. Questions like - How much natural radiation are people living in this area exposed to? What are our future needs for energy, and will RG&E be able to meet them? What about so-called thermal pollution?

Next time you are looking for something different to do, drive out to the Brookwood Science Information Center. It is open Sunday through Thursday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Arrangements for special group visits can be made by calling 546-2700, extension 291-203.

During the month of May, you can see a preview of your visit to Brookwood when you stop in at our Consumer Information Center on the Main Floor at 89 East Avenue.

Appliance Service Call Booklet Available

Have you ever called a serviceman when your washer was not working, only to have him find out that it was not plugged in? This is not only embarrassing; it is also expensive.

Several people at RG&E who talk with our customers regarding appliances - appliance ser-

vicemen and home economists, for instance - got together and contributed information from their experience which would help you avoid such unnecessary calls. This information has been compiled into a booklet entitled "How to Avoid Unnecessary Service Calls." For your copy, mail in the coupon on this page.

From the Home Service Department

The Big Thaw

If you are planning to fill your freezer this year, you'll want to have it ready when your garden is.

A freezer that has frost build-up of more than 1/4" is not running very efficiently and does waste energy. To defrost it, it is not necessary to pull the plug, just turn the control to "off."

Remove the food and wrap in bundles of several layers of newspaper or place in insulated picnic chests.

To collect frost and drips, place large pans on the shelves or bottom. If your freezer has its own drain plug on the bottom, be sure this is not plugged and that the rubber drain tube underneath the freezer extends out and into a pan or drain.

Use a wooden spoon or plastic frost scraper to remove frost off sides, top and shelves of freezer. Never use a sharp instrument. To hasten the

removal of frost, place containers of hot water on the shelves.

Wipe freezer out thoroughly. To wash, use a solution of 3 tablespoons baking soda to 1 quart warm water.

After the freezer is clean turn the control setting to normal and return the food. Note: If frost accumulates rapidly in a short period of time, have a serviceman check the temperature, insulation and tightness of the gasket.

FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS COUPON TO: **CJ-12**
 Dept. 34 Rochester Gas and Electric
 89 East Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14649

I would like more information on the following items:

Name

Address

Town Zip Code