



PLUG INTO
SAFETY

YOUNG DRIVERS SHOULD BE AWARE OF HAZARDS

INDIANA ELECTRIC CO-OPS WARN TEEN DRIVERS TO “STAY IN THE CAR.”

Stepping out of the car immediately after striking a utility pole may kill you. Here’s why:

Power lines fall. When a pole is struck, power lines and hardware can break loose.

Fallen power lines can still be energized. Even touching the ground, they can still carry 7,200 volts or more.

Power lines are not insulated. Grabbing one, grazing up against one, or touching something that’s touching it can kill you.

Electricity seeks the quickest path to ground. You become that path if you get out of the car and touch a live power line and the ground. If you are alive, you are not creating that deadly “path to ground.”

Call 9-1-1. After hitting a pole, call 9-1-1. Tell them you hit a pole. And wait patiently. Tell others to stay back. Wait till you know it’s safe before exiting.

DISTRACTED DRIVING

Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, messing with the radio or navigation system.

Texting is the most alarming distraction. Texting while driving increases your risk of crashing by 23 times.

What should you do? Keep your eyes on the road and hands on the wheel — all the time. Wait to send the text; it’s not worth risking your life.