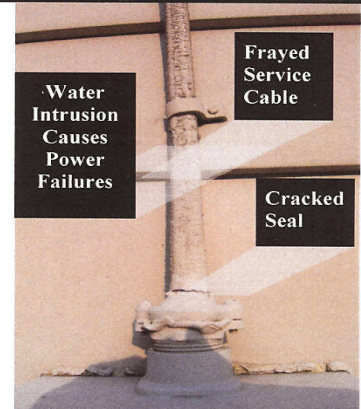
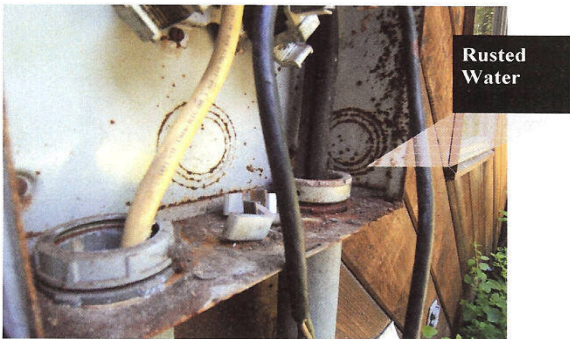


# HOW SAFE IS YOUR Electric Service

## Service Panel Upgrade: When to upgrade?

- Old fuse box
- Circuit breakers keep tripping
- Dimming of lights
- Water intrusion
- Rusted panel or Meter base

We install 100amp, 150amp, 200amp



Faulty electrical systems are dangerous.

Federal Pacific "Stab-Lok" panels are listed as Defective by Home Inspectors

## Safety Tips

Never touch anything electrical when you have wet hands.

If power is lost during a storm, **turn off or unplug** electrical appliances so that there's not a power surge when the electricity comes back on.

If there's flooding, watch out for water around electrical items, and **never use appliances if they're wet.**

If outlets or switches feel warm, **shut off the circuit** and have them checked by an electrician.

Defective Panel—  
Breakers  
Fail to Trip



# ALL Electric

RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL

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## Safety Tips, More Info:

### Safety tips:

- Replace or repair loose or frayed cords on all electrical devices.
- Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets.
- In homes with small children, unused wall sockets and extension-cord receptacles should have plastic safety covers.
- Consider having additional circuits or outlets added by a qualified electrician so you do not have to use extension cords.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for plugging an appliance into a receptacle outlet.
- Avoid overloading outlets. Plug only one high-wattage appliance into each receptacle outlet at a time.
- If outlets or switches feel warm, shut off the circuit and have them checked by an electrician.
- When possible, avoid the use of "cube taps" and other devices that allow the connection of multiple appliances into a single receptacle.
- Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn and use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.
  
- Never touch anything electrical when you have wet hands.
  
- Don't use electrical appliances such as hair dryers or radios in a wet place or near water.
  
- If power is lost during a storm, turn off or unplug electrical appliances so that there's not a power surge when the electricity comes back on.
  
- If there's flooding, watch out for water around electrical items, and never use appliances if they're wet.
  
- Never play with kites or toy planes near overhead power lines.
  
- If a toy happens to get caught in a power line, don't attempt to remove it yourself.
  
- Never prune trees that are near power lines, yourself.

### Electrical Circuit Interrupters

Protective devices capable of responding to overloads and short circuit, such as circuit breakers, have been available for a number of years. Newer technologies now provide enhanced protection from arcing or ground-faults, which may prevent fires or shock.

#### AFCIs (arc-fault circuit-interrupters)

When an electrical switch is opened or closed, an arc, or discharge of electricity across a circuit, occurs. Unintentional arcs can occur at loose connections or where wires or cords have been damaged. Such arcs can lead to high temperatures and sparking, possibly igniting combustibles. AFCIs (arc-fault circuit-interrupters) protect against fire by continuously monitoring the electrical current in a circuit and shutting off the circuit when unintended arcing occurs. These devices are designed to discriminate between unintended arcing and the type of arcing that occurs when a switch is operated.

#### GFCIs (ground-fault circuit-interrupters)

A ground-fault is an unintentional electrical path between a source of electrical current and a grounded surface. Electrical shock can occur if a person comes into contact with an energized part. GFCIs (ground-fault circuit-interrupters) can greatly reduce the risk of shock by immediately shutting off an electrical circuit when that circuit represents a shock hazard (i.e., a person comes in contact with a faulty appliance together with a grounded surface). GFCIs can be installed in a circuit breaker panelboard or directly in a receptacle outlet.

## Facts and figures

- **AFCI** installation is required by the [National Electrical Code® \(NEC\)](#) in bedrooms of new residential construction (effective as of January 1, 2002). Bedrooms were selected as the first area in which to implement this requirement because of a history of fires there.
- **GFCI** installation is required by the *NEC* for receptacles in kitchens, bathrooms, outdoor areas, basements and garages in new residential construction because of a history of shock hazards in these areas.

## Safety tips

- All AFCIs and GFCIs, whether circuit-type or breaker-type, should be installed by a qualified electrician.
- Test AFCIs and GFCIs after installation and once a month thereafter to make sure they are working properly.
- Replace defective AFCIs and GFCIs immediately. A defective device may create a false sense of security to those who do not know that it is non-functional.

Choose AFCIs and GFCIs that carry the label of an independent testing laboratory and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.