



April 26, 2013

## **Important Notice to Homeowners, Restoration Companies And All Those Entering Premises After A Flood**

Ontario's Electrical Safety Authority warns that electrical equipment and wiring that has come into contact with flood waters may be very dangerous. Home and cottage owners should have their wiring and electrical equipment checked by a Licensed Electrical Contractor (LEC), because they may need to be reconditioned or replaced before they can be used safely.

ESA recommends that in the event that flood water has risen above outlets or power cords, or is near the electrical panel; contact your local hydro company to disconnect power to your home or business.

ESA reminds all homeowners and businesses, including restoration companies working in flood-affected areas, to ensure that the power has been disconnected to the entire property before entering any building to avoid the dangers of shock and electrocution. This includes **flooded basements, outbuildings, and boathouses that contain electrical equipment or have an electrical connection.**

Once power has been turned off or disconnected, you should contact a licensed electrical contractor to determine if electrical equipment (wires, plugs, etc.) or appliances need to be replaced. All repairs or replacement of electrical wiring and equipment is subject to inspection requirements as prescribed in the Ontario Electrical Safety Code; a licensed electrical contractor will look after applying for inspection.

ESA's website has a searchable database where homeowners and business owners can find a licensed electrical contractor in their area. In order to access this tool and for more electrical safety information please visit [esasafe.com](http://esasafe.com).

### **About the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA)**

The Electrical Safety Authority's (ESA) role is to enhance public electrical safety in Ontario. As a delegated administrative authority acting on behalf of the Government of Ontario, ESA is responsible for administering specific regulations related to the Ontario Electrical Safety Code, the licensing of Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians, electricity distribution system safety, and electrical product safety. ESA works extensively with stakeholders throughout the province on education, training and promotion to foster electrical safety across the province. More information on the Electrical Safety Authority can be found on its website, [www.esasafe.com](http://www.esasafe.com), through Twitter @HomeandSafety and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ElectricalSafetyAuthority](http://www.facebook.com/ElectricalSafetyAuthority)

For further information:  
Kara Fraser Electrical Safety Authority  
905-712-5387  
[kara.fraser@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:kara.fraser@electricalsafety.on.ca)  
[www.esasafe.com](http://www.esasafe.com)

###