*Your Safety Matters*

**Watch for three signs of electrical overload**

Circuit overload happens when appliances, TVs and other electronics draw more electricity than one circuit can handle. The circuit can overload if you repeatedly operate too many devices on one circuit at the same time.

For example, overload could occur during a family get together if a slow cooker, a coffee maker and other appliances are plugged into the same power strip or outlet. Usually, this results in an automatic trip of the breaker. Over time, a circuit that continues to overload could result in a major safety problem.

There are three classic indicators of circuit overload:

1. Constant circuit breaking: If you continually find yourself resetting a tripped breaker, that indicates too many devices are on one circuit. Eventually, the circuit may stop tripping and result in an electrical fire.
2. Flickering lights. This issue could intensify as more appliances are plugged in. Eventually, the lights may go off completely.
3. Sight and sense warnings. These include warm outlets, smoky smells, darkened outlets, buzzing noises or a tingling sensation from touching outlets, switches or appliances.

If any of these classic signs occur, have a qualified electrician check if you should add circuits. The investment is small compared to the protection and safety of your family and home.

**(Co-op)** cares about electrical safety. Be safe and be aware of overloaded circuits.