

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND SURGE PROTECTION

Electricity is an essential part of our daily lives. While we take every measure to prevent problems and reduce risks for our customers, there are inherent dangers associated with electricity. We encourage you to follow these guidelines concerning voltage surges and electrical safety in your home.

What is a Voltage Surge?

Power disturbances are a normal occurrence in the electric utility and vary in nature. A brief rise in voltage, known as a voltage surge, has a number of causes such as lightning striking energy equipment or a tree falling and hitting power lines. Most of the time surges are harmless. However, occasionally, a surge can cause damage to electrical equipment or appliances in your home.

How is Delmarva Power Minimizing the Effects of Voltage Surges?

- Upgrading equipment and making investments in the local energy grid to continually improve reliability, provide the highest level of service and minimize service interruptions.
- Investigating the causes of the incidents, evaluating circumstances, and identifying new technologies or solutions that could minimize the impact on customers.
- Installing a special class of arresters that enhance the protection of power lines and equipment if a surge occurs.

How Can You Protect Your Property and Equipment from Voltage Surges?

- Consistent with the 2020 National Electric Code, Delmarva Power recommends a whole house surge protector be installed in the customer-owned breaker panel.
- Protect sensitive appliances and electronic equipment with quality surge protectors. Note that surge protectors are not the same as power strips, as power strips do not protect against voltage surges.
- Unplug any sensitive appliances before a lightning storm to protect against potential damage.
- Consider battery backups for home computers.

For more information visit delmarva.com/SafetyCommunity.



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