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KEEPING YOU **CONNECTED** TO THE
BEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

EXTENSION CORD SAFETY: A TEMPORARY FIX IS NOT A PERMANENT SOLUTION

Placement of new appliances and electronics in your home can be problematic. You have to figure out how to get electricity from point A to point B. A problem arises when point A is nowhere near point B. Extension cords seem like the practical, cost-effective solution. However, they are designed for temporary use only. They should never be used as a permanent solution.

The **Safe Electricity** program offers the following guidelines for the safe use of extension cords in your home:

- Check the condition of extension cords. Look for fraying or cracking along the entire length of the cord and for damage to the plug or sockets.
- Make sure the extension cord that you are using has the UL label.
- Make sure the extension cord is properly rated for the devices you have plugged into it. Check the packaging or the tag on the cord for its rating.
- Do not overload extension cords with too many electronics or appliances.
- If any part of the extension cord becomes hot while in use, unplug it immediately and discard it.
- Keep extension cords away from children, pets, and high-traffic areas.
- Don't place extension cords under carpets, rugs, furniture or other objects.
- Unplug extension cords when they are not in use.
- Use only extension cords rated for outdoor use if using outside.