



An Electrical Scavenger Hunt

October is a great time to enjoy the landscape of our rural communities. Many are harvesting their crops and soon the fields will be barren again. Others are gathering the final fruits of their labor from their gardens and mowing their lawns for the last time while the leaves provide a cover. And, then we look around and some might wonder, “Now, what do I do?” Time for an electrical scavenger hunt!

See if you can guess the electrical item, and then take the action listed for the safety tip. Besides, do you really want to pick up all those leaves right now? I didn't think so . . .

Item 1 - To a child, it might look like a snake or a jump rope, but its bright orange color helps you keep track of it. What is it?

Safety Tip: Never use this item for permanent wiring and always inspect it before use.

Item 5 - You will find me in bathrooms, near sinks and even outdoors . . . and you can even put me to the test! What is it?

Safety Tip: Use a night light when testing to make sure it works properly.

Item 2 - It has a door that goes nowhere and likes to be hidden, and everyone seems to have it in gray. What is it?

Safety Tip: Make sure it does not have any openings and all items inside are labeled.

Item 6 - Up high I am and often out of sight and when you look one, two or three of me you see. What is it?

Safety Tip: Always look for this item and keep things at least 10 feet away; never ever touch this item, even when on the ground.

Item 3 - My insides spin and I record, but you won't hear a song if you remove my cover. What is it?

Safety Tip: Do not block access to this item and never remove it yourself; always call your electric co-op.

Item 7 - Never leave me alone for I will run and run and if you place items near me, I could get all fired up! What is it?

Safety Tip: Keep items that can burn 3 feet away and always plug this item directly into a wall outlet. Turn off if you leave the room.

Item 4 - You need me if you decide to connect me direct and I will always have your back. What is it?

Safety Tip: This item prevents backfeed which could electrocute lineworkers making repairs on the line.

Item 8 - I stand tall, yet ice and wind can break me. What is it?

Safety Tip: Never nail or place anything near this item, such as a deer stand, a sign, or a Halloween witch ornament.

Prepared by Minnesota Rural Electric Association; author Lidia Dilley Jacobson

NO. 1 - Extension Cord; **NO. 2** - Service Panel; **NO. 3** - Meter; **NO. 4** - Transfer Switch for Portable Generator; **NO. 5** - GFCI; **NO. 6** - Overhead Lines; **NO. 7** - Space Heater; **NO. 8** - Power Pole