

plugged in

THE EXPERT TRADESMENS' NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the sixth edition of *Plugged In!*

SPRING TIME!

It's Electrical Safety Week (Sept 8-12th). The aim is to help children stay safe by teaching them about electricity inside and outside the home. Be a part of keeping kids safe. Check out our article on the back page or visit our website: <http://everestelectrical.com.au/news/electrical-safety/electricity-how-it-works-for-kids/>

Spring is also a time for new growth in our gardens including good old tree roots. Be sure to read our front page article to pick up some handy tips on preventing tree roots giving you grief with your plumbing pipes.

Thank you for your continual support and for trusting us with your electrical and plumbing needs.

All the teams at Everest Electrical and Jedi Plumbing. ■

DID YOU KNOW?

In Japan, some urinals have **voice-activated flush mechanisms**.

According to wikipedia, these urinals respond to as many as 30 different languages and several terms, including "fire."



Chock-a-block

IS YOUR TOILET FILLING HIGHER THAN normal? Does your bath or sink take a long time to empty? Did your child flush a soft toy or a ball down the toilet to see if it would disappear?

Slow drains, overflowing toilets and gullies, gurgling noises from your drains – these are all signs that your sewer pipes have a blockage in them.

What causes a blocked sewer?

According to a study conducted by Sydney Water, over 80% of blocked sewers are caused by tree roots entering the pipes. Trees like figs, eucalyptus, liquid amber, bottlebrush, casuarina and paperbark are the ones found to cause the most damage.

Other than tree roots, sewer blockages can be caused by fat and grease build ups, foreign materials being flushed down the drains or collapsed pipe work.

The solution

With blocked sewers, the challenge lies in identifying the location of the blockage and choosing the best way to clear it. Usually equipment such as a high pressure water jetter and CCTV drain camera are required to clear and inspect these blockages.

Tips for preventing blocked sewers

- Before planting any tree in your yard, consider sewer pipe location.
- Never use your toilet to dispose of foreign objects like baby nappies, wipes, cotton buds, tampons or other sanitary products.
- Do not empty cooking oils, fats or greases into the drain as these solidify and cause build-up inside your pipes leading to blockage.
- Paints, pesticides and other chemicals used for home maintenance must never be emptied into drains as these are corrosive and can damage your pipes.
- There are also cases where a portion of the pipe breaks off and the broken pieces or surrounding soil block the sewer lines. If you suspect that your sewer pipes are very old or weakened, it is best to get them replaced.

Blocked sewers are a serious problem.

The impact of raw sewage entering our environment and waterways is tremendous. Our team at Jedi Plumbing is well-experienced in identifying and fixing sewer problems and are happy to offer regular maintenance inspections which may help avoid such problems. ■

70% AAA-rated water efficient shower rose can reduce hot water usage by up to 70%.



Remember...

to mention your membership when you book in your next job with us.

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Electrical Safety for Kids

ELECTRIC SHOCK IS WHEN electricity passes through our bodies. It can be very painful and scary. An electric shock can burn our skin, muscles and other parts of our bodies and severe electric shock can kill. Electricity is safe as long as we are aware of the dangers and follow safety tips:

INDOORS

- 1 Ask an adult for help to use anything electrical.
- 2 Don't use anything electrical near water or if you have wet hands or are standing in water.
- 3 NEVER stick fingers or anything else into power points or into electrical stuff. NEVER stick a knife into a toaster!
- 4 Don't use cords that look cracked, split, worn out or if they heat up when plugged in.
- 5 Don't use or touch a power point if the cover is loose, missing or broken.
- 6 Tell an adult if you see any dangerous cords, plugs or power points and NEVER touch them.
- 7 Ask an adult to cover unused power points with safety caps especially if there are little kids in the house.
- 8 Don't yank electrical cords from walls. Always pull by grabbing the plug end.

OUTDOORS

- 1 Don't play or climb fences or poles near substations, power lines or electrical equipment like the green metal boxes you can see in lawns or fields.
- 2 Always look out for power lines before you climb a tree. Sometimes they are hard to see and electricity can go through a branch and into you.
- 3 Never get on the roof to get your toy or play as power lines attach to houses near the roof.
- 4 Never ever fly your kite near power lines or substations. If your kite gets caught on a power line LET GO immediately, never try to get it back and ask an adult for help.
- 5 Never fly toys or play in a storm as wet string conducts electricity and lightning can strike too.
- 6 Never touch power lines that come down in a storm. Stay well away from the area as it is very dangerous.
- 7 Remind adults to call an electrical company before they dig holes as some power lines are buried underground.
- 8 Remind others, even adults to look out for power lines when climbing ladders or using outdoor equipment like chainsaws, window or roof cleaning tools.

290,000km/s

Electricity travels at the speed of light – more than 290,000 km per second!

DID YOU KNOW?

Every 30 milliseconds your safety switch is checking the electricity for faults, ready to trip to keep you ALIVE!

SAVE ON SAFETY

20% Discount
on all Electrical Switchboard Upgrades this Quarter

Printed on 100% recycled paper.