KCA TOOL BOX TALK:
Electrical Wiring Safety

Electrical hazards are the third-leading cause of fatal injuries among construction workers. One of every eight-construction industry deaths involves electricity.

**Here is an Example:** Ryan and his supervisor were finishing the electrical wiring of an outdoor floodlight. Ryan began removing the insulation from a normal house wiring unit, using an insulated wire stripper. His right thumb and right index finger contacted the non-insulated part of the wire stripper. The 110-volt circuit had not been shut off at the panel box. Ryan received an electrical shock and fell to the ground. The ambulance soon arrived, but he was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital.

1. How would you prevent an incident like this?

2. Have you or anyone you know ever had an electrical injury? If so, what happened?

**Preventing Electrical Hazards:**

- De-energize electrical circuits before doing any type of work on them.
- Use lockout devices to prevent a circuit from becoming live.
- Put a tag on the locked device, indicating that it should not be turned on.
- Clearly identify the disconnected power source and circuits.
- Use an AC voltage tester to verify that the electrical power is off.
- Use insulated tools and gloves when working on electrical wires.

For more information visit OSHA REGULATION: 1926.416-417