



# TJ Electric

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*Got Juice?*

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### Highlights

#### In this Issue

- It's the time of year to enjoy your landscape lighting
- You need a Licensed Electrical Contractor
- GFI's What you need to know

#### Inside this issue:

Who is TJ Electric?	1
The Beauty of Landscape Lighting	1
Why a Licensed Electrician?	2
Let's Be Neat!	2
GFI's What are they good for?	3
Quotes & Jokes	4
Sunlight	4

## A Bit About TJ Electric

Welcome to TJ Electric's first newsletter publication. In this newsletter we will share helpful tips and ideas for lighting your home both indoors and outdoors. We will discuss panel upgrades, electrical safety, permits, technology issues.

In short (no pun intended) we will be providing information on all things electrical. Your home requires proper functioning electrical distribution and devices. Additionally, your home is a warm and welcoming place that should reflect your personal

taste. TJ Electric is here to help you with these objectives.

We will discuss panel upgrades and lighting design ideas to help you make wise decisions about your home lighting needs. TJ Electric can help you do just that.

TJ Electric is a family owned business offering outstanding, competitive electrical services. Our staff has a wealth of expertise to apply to your specific situation. 17 years of electrical contracting, 35 years of electrical background, BSEE



(NJIT) for our lead electrician. We are focused on residential solutions: lighting, service work, renovations, repairs and design.. TJ Electric provides excellent service at a reasonable price. Contact us for free phone quote and a thorough discussion of your options. We look forward to earning your business.



## Landscape Lighting



This time of year brings us all outdoors into the gardens and onto the patios and decks.

Outdoor lighting enhances the look and use of these spaces.

Landscape lighting is an ideal way to light pathways, walkways and illuminate trees and shrubs.

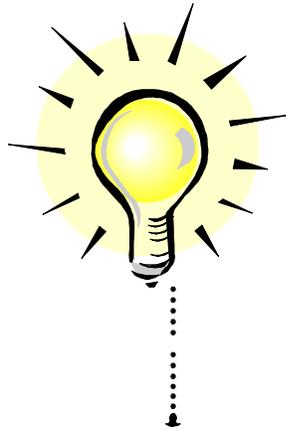
From delicate garden accent lights to bright wall wash illumination

on your home, TJ Electric can design and install outstanding landscape lighting solutions to give your home that intimate and comforting feel.

# Why a Licensed Electrician?

There are many reasons why homeowners should hire only licensed, insured electrical contractors to perform all electrical work for your home.

For most, there is not any question that a licensed Electrical Contractor (EC) should be called in to do a service upgrade. With this sort of project, the danger and complexity is obvious. But often there are times when either a well intentioned General Contractor (GC) or an ambitious homeowner may take on some house wiring. Something as simple as replacing a wall switch or replacing a ceiling fixture can be surprisingly difficult and complicated.



Let there be light!

We have been called to many homes where a simple switch change by a non EC has resulted in melted devices and loss of power to portions of the house. Of course, the cost to repair this switch install gone bad is greater than the cost to have the EC do the original work. Whether you are a doctor, lawyer, Indian chief, electrical engineer, rocket scientist or experienced GC, do yourself a favor and hire an EC for your electrical

work!

Why should you hire a licensed EC?:

- 1) EC's are required to carry liability insurance for YOUR property if something does go wrong. TJ Electric car-

ries a \$2 Million liability policy.

- 2) EC's are required to have worker's compensation insurance in case any of their employees are injured while working at your home.
- 3) EC's are required to know the National Electrical Code (NEC). The NEC code is updated every 3 years. EC's must take continuing education for these updates to maintain their license in NJ. The NEC is intended to protect life and property (ie, SAFE electrical installations.)
- 4) Electricity is extremely dangerous! You can be hurt (or worse) and you can create quite a shock and/or fire hazard very easily!

## Working In Your Home

Our work ethic includes treating all of our customer's homes as if it was our own. A significant part of our set up time at your home is the placement of carpet runners at the high traffic areas; cloth tarps where we will be working and plastic sheeting on furnishings, TVs and computers if we will be cutting sheetrock nearby.

We always have a heavy duty shop vac with us with a clean air filter in it and a secondary filter on the exhaust. When cutting holes for recessed lights we run the shop vac right at the hole

saw to minimize the spread of dust. We work very hard to minimize intrusive actions when running wires through your walls and ceilings.

Cleanliness is one thing, but don't forget we are there to do electrical work. Placement of switches and outlets are chosen to be most convenient and functional. Quantity and types of light fixtures are chosen based on the expected use of the space. Cost effective solutions for more circuits or more capacity are offered. (i.e.; a sub panel as an option to a panel upgrade.) Of

course we are always focused to identify and repair any dangerous wiring or devices. We know how to perform electrical work but most importantly we are motivated to do the right thing for you because we are committed to treating your home as if it was ours.



# Trivia

\* Where do the modern wire gauge designations come from? Wire gauges are derived from the old days, when the only way to get smaller wire, was to run it through the wire forming machine more times. Therefore, a "0" gauge wire was the largest, a "12" gauge had gone through the machine 12 times, a "22" gauge had gone through 22 times, etc.



\*Nikola Tesla, of Romania, invented radio, *not* Marconi. (Marconi made his discovery independently, a few years later) Tesla also invented alternating current (AC) power that we all use today. He also invented the AC electric motors to run from AC power. Also to his credit are -  
 - Radar  
 - Neon lighting  
 - Fluorescent lighting  
 - The electrical 'tube'  
 He also holds the record for the longest man-made lightening bolts, at 130' in length.

\*The average adult makes about 1.5 litres of saliva per day. A cow makes about 8 litres.  
 \*Bungy jumping was invented by AJ Hackett, of New Zealand in the mid 80's. Hackett, and a friend thought it up based on some tribal practices of a south Pacific island tribe, who jump from a tall, rickety wooden tower and rely on vines tied around one leg to stop their fall, but to pull off the stunt 'properly', the jumper must *just* hit the ground!

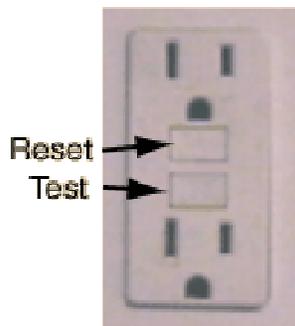
## GFI's What are they Good For?

Ground fault interrupters, aka GFI's are those receptacles with the buttons on them. You will usually find them in bathrooms and kitchen counters. These devices exist to save human lives. Yes, that is correct, their only function in this world is save you from the experiencing electrical current flowing through your body. (I don't know anyone who likes that!) The NEC requires GFI's in the following locations:

- 1) Kitchen counters.
- 2) Any outdoor location.
- 3) Any unfinished basement areas.
- 4) Garages
- 5) Crawl spaces
- 6) Bathrooms.
- 7) Laundry circuit.

a very slight imbalance of current between the hot and return lines of the receptacle (the two flat blades of the plug). A/C current is normally equal on the hot and return lines. When the current is not the same it means there is current flowing somewhere else (maybe through you!). So the GFI will automatically trip, disconnecting the power from the outlet. The GFI detects a very small amount of

current imbalance, specifically 6 one-thousandths of an amp, 6/1000. A very small amount, you may not even feel it. (Yay!). The GFI required locations are in areas where there may be a water source (very conductive to earth) or bare or concrete covered earth, also potentially conductive. These areas set the stage for the possible shock hazard if you touch a faulty appliance while standing on or touching a good "ground". As soon as a very small amount of current "leaks" from the faulty appliance through you; the GFI trips, saving your life. Say thank you GFI.



A GFI will "trip" when it detects

TJ Electric can test and install GFI's for you. These items are often cited as deficient (missing or non-functioning) during home inspections.



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*Call or email us for quotes and to schedule electrical work at your home. We look forward to hearing from you.*

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## Quote of the Day



"He who angers you conquers you."

- Elizabeth Kenny



## Joke of the Day

Good News, Bad News, Worse News

Good:

The postman's early

Bad:

He's wearing fatigues and carrying an AK47

Worse:

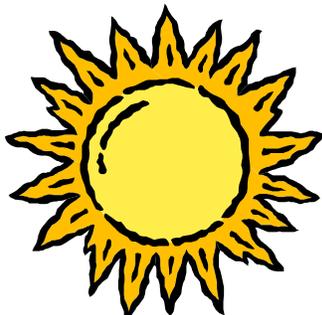
You gave him nothing for Christmas

## Sunlight

### Change Through Example

Positivism is definitely something the world can use more of. It is so easy to get caught up in the negative messages we receive from press, friends, and associates that we lose sight of the good things in life. We are here.

We are able to logically think, and critically analyze our world, our life, our decisions. We-



can make a difference. Leaders are not born or made, they evolve from people who learn from mistakes and take an active role in the world around them. We, through our actions, influence others.

Today, as you go through your day-to-day tasks, look inwardly and ask yourself, is the example you are leading with bringing more positive energy

and results to the world and people around you? If not, what can you do to change?

As Maya Angelou once said, "If you don't like something change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."

I'm going to work to change my attitude and find more positives in a world flooded with negatives. Care to join me?