

Electrical Safety Around Irrigation & Well Pumps

Why It Matters:

Water and electricity don't mix—improper handling of irrigation systems and well pumps can result in electrocution or electrical fires.

Key Safety Points:

- Never touch electrical panels, wiring, or pumps with wet hands.
- Inspect all cords and connections for fraying or damage before use.
- Use GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) outlets near water sources.
- Keep metal ladders, pipes, and irrigation tools away from power lines.
- If an electrical fault occurs, shut off power at the breaker before troubleshooting.

Real-Life Risks:

- Many farm injuries happen when workers contact live wires while repairing irrigation systems.
- Electrical shorts in well pumps have caused fires and fatal shocks.

Discussion Questions:

- When was the last time our electrical equipment was inspected?
- What's the safest way to respond to an electrical emergency on the farm?