

Hooray for D-Wayne

D-Wayne may have gotten himself frozen. But—bless his little pea brain—at least he didn't touch the power line that was down on the ground.

Even a bunny as dumb as D-Wayne can have some safety sense. Before doing something stupid, he listened for that little voice that told him: "Wait a durn minute!"

Before you do something that might be dangerous, search the quiet part of your brain. Listen for the little warning bell that signals you're about to do something you'll regret. Think of your mother or father and what they would tell you if they were there.

And now, here's a little lesson on downed lines:

Even if downed power lines don't make noise, spark or "dance," they can be dangerous. Very, very dangerous—they can carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or even death!

Follow these rules:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from the line and anything touching it.
- The proper way to move away from the line is to shuffle away with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. That reduces your chances of getting electrocuted.
- If someone is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. Call 911 or have an adult call right away.
- Don't try to move a downed power line or anything in contact with the line by using another object such as a broom or stick. You could still get shocked!

Whenever you are around electricity, use the smart part of your brain.

Cartoonist Keith Graves is a popular artist and author of children's books. Among his greatest hits are *Frank Was a Monster Who Wanted to Dance* and *Loretta: Ace Pinky Scout*. He lives in Austin with his wife, Nancy, and the twins, Max and Emma.

