The 2020 National Electrical Code now requires Surge Protective Devices in new or renovated homes. Learn how these devices protect your home and your electronics.

What is a Surge?
A power surge is a brief overvoltage event that can damage electrical devices and is a common cause for failure of electrical equipment.

Surges can damage and reduce the lifespan of:
- Heating & Air Conditioning Systems
- Washers & Dryers
- Water Heaters
- Ranges & Refrigerators
- Lighting
- Entertainment Systems

$15,000 Damaged Equipment
According to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, the average home has $15,000 worth of equipment that can be damaged by surge.

Common Causes of Surge:
It is estimated that 80% of surges are caused by internal sources.

Internal Sources
- Large appliances turning on/off
- Faulty wiring or loose connections
- Overloaded circuits, short circuits, or ground faults
- Power recovery

External Sources
- Lightning
- Damage to power lines
- Utility power grid switching

New 2020 National Electrical Code Requirements
All new and renovated homes are required to be protected by Listed and Approved Type 1 or Type 2 Surge Protective Devices.

Type 1
Permanently connected Surge Protective Device. Protects against external and internal surges. May be installed inside or outside the home.

Type 2
Permanently connected Surge Protective Device installed in, or next to, breaker box. Protects against internal and external surges.

Extra Protection
Type 3
Point of use Surge Protective Device. Must be used in conjunction with Type 1 or Type 2 SPD to meet 2020 code requirements.

Use Type 1, 2, and 3 SPDs for the best level of protection.