

FORT WAINWRIGHT FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Electrical Safety

Fire Prevention Office
1049 Chena Road
Apt .9, Fort Wainwright
AK. 99703

ADD IT UP!

Electrical outlets and most surge protectors are rated at 15 amps (1875 watts) and can be easily overloaded.



Computer = 2.0 amps (250 watts)
Monitor = 1.5 amps (190 watts)
Speakers = 0.12 amps (15 watts)
Desk lamp = 0.32 amps (40 watts)
Scanner = 1.2 amps (150 watts)
Printer = 9.4 amps (1,175 watts)



TOTAL = 14.54 amps (1,820 watts)

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Electrical appliances and wires shall be UL, ETL, or SA listed. Electrical cords will not be spliced and users shall inspect cords frequently for signs of fraying, cracking, wearing, or damage. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) are required in damp areas (i.e. bathrooms, kitchens, garages, outdoors, crawl space, etc.). When plugging in electrical devices/appliances, be sure to check the connection is secure.



Receptacle damage from a loose connection.



Power Strip vs. Surge Protector

Can you tell the difference between a power strip and a surge protector? The main difference between them is surge protectors are designed to protect devices from voltage

spikes. Conversely, power strips do not provide any type of protection and are simply an extension of your electrical receptacle. To tell the difference, you have to look at the packaging or the device itself. A true surge protector will be labeled as such, contain an indicating light and are usually rated in joules, the amount of energy it can absorb before it fails.



Keurig/Coffee Makers use ~12.5 amps
Must be plugged directly into wall outlet

Microwaves use ~8-13 amps
Must be plugged directly into wall outlet



A 725-watt refrigerator uses 6 amps.
Must be plugged directly into wall outlet

Space heaters use 12.5 amps
Must be plugged directly into wall outlet, be UL listed and have tip-over protection



Electrical appliances that do not require continuous operation will be unplugged when not in use and this check should be accomplished when running your daily closing checklist. The facility manager should always make sure their facility is in a fire-safe condition at the end of each shift/day.

This document was established as a quick reference guide and is not all inclusive. Please contact the Fire Prevention Office for assistance or if you any questions.