



“Just Wait One Minute There”

I don't know about you, but I often wonder where did the time go, especially as we approach the hunting trips, holidays and other big plans. Yet, too often, we find ourselves hurrying to get to the deer camp, trying to get the decorations up, rushing to the grocery store, and running to get the shopping done. And those plans we had . . . well, maybe next year.

In our industry, as with other ones, too, we get caught up in the rush of things. It's not shopping or getting groceries. Instead, it is trying to get the power on quickly, or finishing up a job before the rain comes, or meeting with a contractor and you left the shop later than you wanted. Yet, one other part we add in to this mix – safety. We work to get the power on quickly AND SAFELY. We finish up a job SAFELY before the rain comes. We drive SAFELY to meet a contractor. And, when we don't, an accident can happen.

So the same can go for you. Unless we add SAFETY into our tasks at home, we might not have a hunting story to share or a holiday to celebrate. So, I encourage one thing. If you find yourself hurrying, then stop for 1 minute and ask, **“Is this being done safely?”** When we take one minute and stop, it is just enough time to reframe our thinking and our actions.

1 minute

**Is this being
done safely?**

In that one minute, you can do at least one of these actions:

1. Look around to see if you spot any hazards such as overhead power lines.
2. Inspect your tool or cords.
3. Get your safety glasses, hearing protection, chain saw chaps or any other personal protective equipment you should be wearing.
4. Contact Gopher State One to get a locate of your utilities before you dig.
5. Check the ladder and make sure no broken or missing parts are present.

And, there are indeed man more actions you can take in that one minute.

That one minute can be the difference, though. Because if we don't, an accident will slow it down for you. All that rushing to save 5 minutes just turned into 5 hours or 5 days or . . . you get the picture.

So, next time you find yourself rushing, or you see someone else, think or say, “Just wait one minute there.” And, then do your next action safely at home, at work and on the road.