

Why Trust Anyone Else?

Water Softener Installation has broken the electrical grounding system

Electrical grounding directs dangerous electrical charges away from the home and into the ground. Lightning strikes and static electricity charges are the two most common type of potentially damaging electrical charges. Did you know that lightning ground strikes up to 25 feet from your home can latch onto your pipes and shoot through your entire home?

Historically the homes copper water piping system provides a safe ground for the homes electrical system as long as it is complete. Complete means uninterrupted. What we have discovered is that many people are installing their own water softeners, often from the big box stores. There is a large warning in the safety information page that appears to be rarely read and there is a ground clamp kit that comes with every installation kit that I have not yet seen installed. Please note if you have plastic pipe this grounding of the two pipes is not required. Only if the pipes are galvanized or copper or a combination of both.

The first photo shown below is the plastic bypass on a “Big Box Store” water softener. The two copper pipes have been disconnected and a plastic bypass installed breaking the electrical bond of the pipes. I have seen some tiny little ground straps which I guess would be better than nothing but please look at the other photo of a water system installed by a professional and notice the #6 ground wire attached via grounding clamps to continue the bond of the system.



There are other ways metal plumbing can become enegized so lets just play it safe and make sure this is done properly.

Honest Home Inspection wants to be your building consultant for life. We hope this material was informative for you. Thank you for allowing us to help