

Holiday decorating for the energy-wise home

SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY THIS HOLIDAY

Whether you've already decked your halls or you're just getting started, there's still time to incorporate energy savings into your holiday décor planning.

If you haven't strung your twinkle lights, be sure to use LED light strands. LEDs consume far less energy than incandescent lights, and they can last 40 holiday seasons. They're also safer because they're made with epoxy lenses, not glass, making them more resistant to breaking. And they're cool to the touch, so no burned fingers!

If you missed Santa's memo about energy-saving LEDs, and your holiday lights are already up, you can still save on lighting costs. All you need is a programmable light timer or smart plug. Most models cost between \$10 to \$25 and can be purchased through online retailers like Amazon or at big-box stores like Lowe's or WalMart.

With a light timer, you can easily program when you want your holiday lights turned on and off, which will save you time, money and energy. If you're using a timer for exterior lighting, make sure it's weatherproof and intended for outdoor use.

If Clark Griswold's décor style is a bit much for your taste, consider a more natural approach. Many Christmas tree farms, and even retailers, give away greenery clippings from recently trimmed trees. With a little twine, extra ornaments and sparkly ribbon, you can create beautiful garlands and wreaths to hang over your front door or windows.

To add extra twinkle at night, you can install solar-powered spotlights to illuminate your new (essentially free!) greenery. Solar spotlights can vary in price, but you should be able to purchase a quality set of four for about \$30. And because they run on natural energy from the sun, there's no additional cost to your energy bill.

Regardless of how you decorate your home for the holidays, there are plenty of ways to save energy throughout the season. Visit aecc.com/energy-efficiency for additional energy-saving tips.

(Source: NRECA)



PHILIPS

If you haven't made the switch to LED holiday lights, it's time. LEDs can last 40 holiday seasons, and they're safer than incandescent holiday lights.



HJACKIE RAMIREZ

If you prefer a more natural approach to your holiday décor, consider making a simple wreath or garland for the exterior of your home. You can also use solar-powered spotlights to illuminate the greenery at night.

WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION



As part of its efforts to increase and enrich the region's tree canopy, the Walton Family Foundation provided more than \$1.3 million to plant 1,239 new trees and give away 5,375 trees to Northwest Arkansas residents.

Since 2015, the Foundation has provided more than 23,000 trees.

Carroll Electric was honored to collaborate with the Walton Family Foundation and a few of the cities during their recent tree giveaway events.

Carroll Electric's crews assisted the cities of Gravette, Lowell, and Bella Vista with the loading of trees for their residents. Each crew also had at least one certified arborist present who could answer questions from residents about planting or the general care of the trees, including the risks created when trees grow too close to power lines.

Cory Smith, Vice President of Corporate Relations, commented on recent events. "At Carroll Electric, we understand the environmental and aesthetic benefits of our local trees and were excited to play a small role in this year's tree giveaways. We are very grateful to be a part of this program."

The Cooperative is hoping to assist other cities with their tree giveaways in the future.

Committed to community is just one of the many principles embraced by Carroll Electric Cooperative's mission.

BELLA VISTA

GRAVETTE

LOWELL



MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Carroll Electric's business offices will be closed Thursday, December 23, Friday, December 24, and Friday, December 31.

Payments may be made online or in the night depositories available at each of our four offices. Office addresses and online bill payment options can be found at carrollecc.com. Emergency service is always available.

my co-op

As this year comes to an end, the Cooperative believes 2021 will be another successful year in providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to approximately 88,000 members in Northwest Arkansas and Southwest Missouri. In accordance with the Cooperative's bylaws (carrollecc.com/cooperative-mission) the official reports of 2021's performance will be mailed in April of 2022 along with a survey and ballot to conduct the Official Business of the Membership on May 26, 2022.