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Halifacts

HALIFAX ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

Your Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 

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From All of Us To All of You!



*Happy and
Safe Holidays!*

Charles H. Guerry

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Locations

Enfield: (252) 445-5111

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www.halifaxemc.com**Tell Us...**

Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative. Your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service.

Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or e-mail them to bamartin@halifax-emc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

Halifax EMC has been distributing compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) to our members. We gave them away at the Annual Meeting; we have had giveaway days at both the Enfield and Macon offices; and we gave CFLs at our Customer Appreciation Day. Now, we are distributing these bulbs to members when we change out their meters. The purpose of giving these CFLs to our members is to promote energy efficiency. Lighting consumes 22 percent of the electrical power that is generated in the U. S.

When you choose energy-efficiency lighting, you:

- Save money;
- Help reduce the need for additional power plants;
- Reduce greenhouse gases and other pollution; and
- Can use lighting in ways you never thought possible.

Energy efficiency is everyone's responsibility and energy-efficient lighting is the easiest way to save money on power.

It is that time of year when we all decorate our homes for the holidays and enjoy delicious meals with our family and friends. Lighting used for decorations can add some additional cost to your electric bill, but one

"Lighting consumes 22 percent of the electrical power that is generated in the U.S."

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

way to keep these increased costs to a minimum is to use LED (Light Emitting Diodes) Christmas lights.

The benefits of these kind of lights are:

- Low power consumption
- Cool burning
- Long life span
- Durable and insensitive to vibrations
- Dimmable and programmable, in many cases
- Super-fast turn-on
- Lightweight and compact
- Color
- Environmentally friendly
- Recyclable

LEDs can be used for various types of applications, such as accent lighting, task lighting, area lighting, portable lighting, and Christmas lights. Imagine being able to connect a string of lights a half-mile long and power it from a single outlet. With LED Christmas lights you can use more lights and still save money. They also have a longer life span and do not generate the heat that ordinary Christmas lights do, which reduces the risk of fire. However, it is still a good idea to cut your Christmas lights off when you leave home or go to bed.





Energy-Efficient *Ideas*

Many Americans are preparing for the holidays by putting up strings of holiday lights. In order to save energy, consider using LED Christmas lights. These lights are an alternative to incandescent lamps, and let families enjoy the beauty of holiday lights, while saving energy and money.

LED holiday lights have many advantages over ordinary incandescent lights:

- Running LED holiday lights on one 6-foot tree for 12 hours per day for 40 days can save 90 percent or more energy when compared to traditional incandescent holiday lights.
- LED holiday lights last longer; they have an operational life span of roughly 20,000 hours, enough to last for 40 holiday seasons.
- LED holiday lights are made in the same shapes and varieties

as typical incandescent holiday lights, but LED holiday lights are more durable than incandescent bulbs, with the lamp shape typically made out of a solid plastic rather than glass.

- LED holiday lights are cooler than incandescent bulbs, reducing the risk of fire and personal injury.
- Because they use less power, it is safer to connect multiple strings of LED holiday lamps end-to-end without overloading the wall socket.

Safe Holiday Decorating

In the spirit of the season, it can be easy to become engrossed in holiday decorations and lights. However festive, these embellishments also add extra electrical strain to your home and safety. Consider this when plugging in those giant Santa statues and miles of icicle lights. Practice the following tips to ensure a safe, joyful holiday season:

Lights

- If you are using traditional incandescent lights, avoid plugging multiple strands of lights into one outlet as this may overload the circuit.



- When decorating with lights, look for frayed or broken cords and damaged light bulbs.
- Immediately replace a broken light bulb with a new one. Leave the old one in until you find a replacement.
- Don't run extension cords under rugs or furniture, especially under a Christmas tree skirt.

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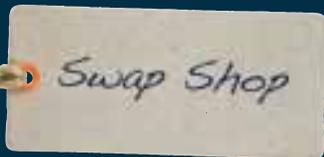


RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Cream Cheese Cake

- 2 cans crescent rolls
- 1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 stick margarine, melted
- Brown sugar and cinnamon

Spread 1 can of crescent rolls in ungreased 9" x 13" pan. Cream together the cream cheese, powdered sugar, and vanilla; spread over the crescent rolls. Spread the other can of crescent rolls over the cream cheese mixture. Pour the stick of melted margarine over the top of the crescent rolls. Sprinkle with lots of brown sugar and cinnamon. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. Great breakfast treat!



For sale: Big Jim wood fireplace insert w/dble blowers, \$300. Call: 252-445-3577 (Enfield).



- Only use lights with the label "Underwriters Laboratories Approved" or "UL Approved."
- Plug outdoor lights and decorations into a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help protect against electric shock.
- Do not leave lights on unattended.

Trees

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, Christmas trees account for 200 fires annually, resulting in an average of six deaths, 25 injuries and more than \$6 million in property damage. Keep your family and home safe with the following tips:

- Keep your tree well hydrated. Dry branches can ignite when they come in contact with lights.

- Never use electric decorations on an aluminum tree.
- If your tree is artificial, make sure it is fire retardant.
- Do not place your tree close to a heat source, such as a heater, vent or fireplace.
- When disposing of your tree, never put the branches in the fireplace. Rather, take your tree to a recycling facility or have it discarded by a community pick-up service.

Other Decorations

- Never leave candles burning when you are away.
- Never put lit candles on a Christmas tree.
- Never discard wrapping paper by throwing it in the fireplace.



The holiday season is meant to be a festive time spent with family and friends. Practice electrical safety during this special time to protect your loved ones.

Holiday Closings

Halifax EMC will be closed on

Thursday,
December 24
and Friday,
December 25
for Christmas

Friday, January 1
for New Year!

Happy Holidays!

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Halifax Electric Membership Corporation is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Leona B. Padgett, Manager of Human Resources & Facilities. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.