

NorVal

News

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May Your Holidays Be Merry and Bright

As December kicks off, it's hard to believe we'll soon be gathering with family and friends to celebrate the holiday season. This festive time of year brings joy and warmth, but as the weather gets cooler and we spend more time indoors, the holidays can also bring increased energy use and a higher risk of electrical and fire hazards.

As your local electric cooperative, our team at NorVal Electric Co-op cares about your wellbeing. This month, we'd like to share a few practical tips to help you stay safe and efficient during the holiday season.

Safety first:

Most families truly enjoy decorating their homes for the holidays. Before decking the halls, always check electrical cords and light strands to make sure they aren't frayed or damaged. This can give peace of mind, knowing your holiday lights are ready to safely brighten your homes. Also, double check the lights that are used outside to make sure they're rated for outdoor use.

Many households across the United States enjoy holiday-scented candles in their house during the holidays. While festive, candles can create fire hazards and should never be left unattended. One of the best and easiest ways to safeguard your home is to test smoke alarms often. Testing the alarms on the first of each month is good practice, so it's easy to remember. Testing smoke alarms only takes a few seconds and could save lives, so make it a habit.

'Tis the season for savings.

Spending more time indoors with a few more guests in the home can really impact home energy use. By taking a few small steps to save energy during the holiday season, you can lower your bills.

Since heating and cooling makes up the majority of home energy consumption, the thermostat is one of the best places for savings. Lower it a few degrees, especially when family or friends stop by. Good company brings additional warmth to your home.

Your family can also save energy by decorating with LED holiday lights. LEDs are the most energy efficient lighting options available, and they last much longer than traditional bulbs.

There's no denying one of the best parts of the holiday season is the food--not just the meals but the time you get to spend together in the kitchen. There are many ways to save your home, but one of the best approaches is to cook with smaller countertop appliances, such as air fryers, slow cookers and toaster ovens. These handy appliances consume a fraction of the energy used to heat the oven, creating the perfect recipe for mealtimes and energy savings.

We hope you will implement some of these energy-saving and safety tips into your holiday plans. For additional advice, visit our website at <https://norval.coop/energy-saving-tips>. We're here to help you with safety and savings year-round.

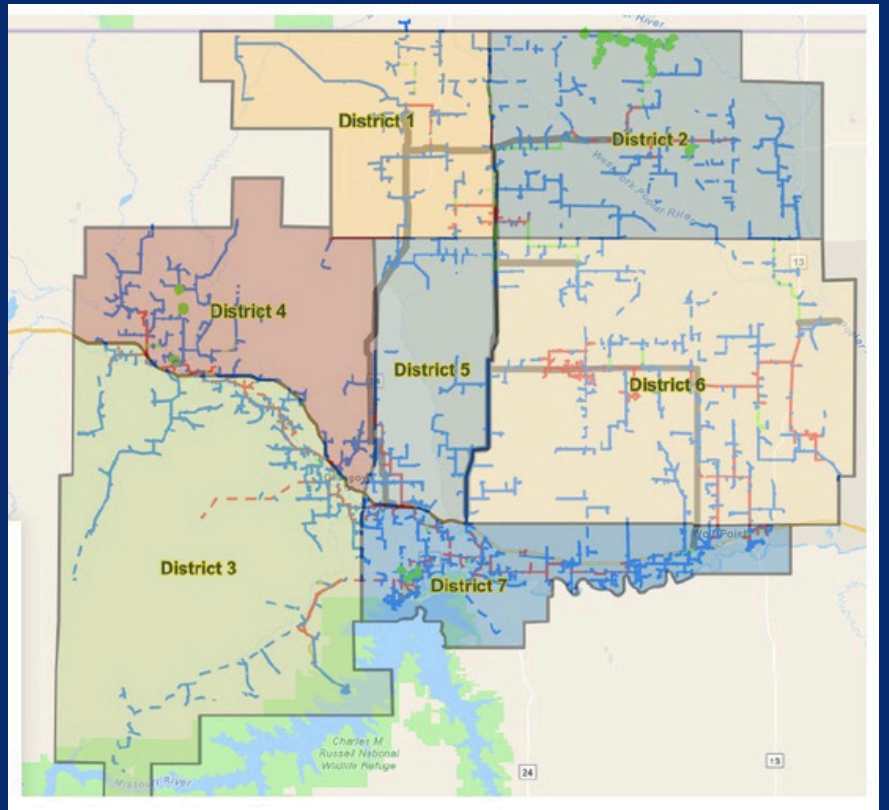
From your friends at NorVal Electric Co-op, we hope your holiday season is merry and bright.

Board District Map

An interactive map is now available on our website to help members find their District and Director.

To access it, you may go to the following link and enter your address.

<https://norval.coop/board-directors>



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



- NorVal Electric Scholarship
- MECA Memorial Scholarship
- Basin Electric Scholarship
- NorVal Electric Workforce Development

Deadline: February 1, 2025
For more information, please visit norval.coop.



Will Solar Panels Work for You?

- Solar panels work best when your roof faces south.
- If your roof receives a fair amount of shade, solar panels are not a good option for renewable energy.
- Your roof must be able to support the weight of solar panels, plus the weight of other loads, such as wind and snow.
- There are many factors to consider before installing solar panels. We recommend calling our office if you have been contacted by a solar panel vendor or are considering this option for energy efficiency.

Special Request



The Post Office has reached out to us and requested we update our members billing addresses to a PO Box if possible. Please notify our office should you have a PO Box and wish to update your mailing address by calling (406) 228-9351. You can also submit an address change request through our Smarthub website or you can complete the address change form on the back of your billing remit slip.