

# DECEMBER 2017

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*My Energy Planner* 

Keep Your Home Safe This Holiday Season

> BEACHES ENERGY SERVICES

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Keep in mind these tips to help you shine bright while saving energy this holiday season.

- The types of lights you buy for your holiday decorations have the biggest impact on energy usage. Consider replacing incandescent lights with LED lights, which are up to 70% more efficient than conventional lighting.
- Use automatic light timers to turn off lights at night.
- Consider purchasing a tree lit with fiber optics, which uses less energy than a tree decorated with traditional string lights.

#### TIDINGS TIPS: KEEP SAVING ENERGY THIS WINTER

- Lower the temperature. During the winter when you are home, set your thermostat to 68° or lower. When you leave, lower your thermostat 2 to 3 degrees for additional savings. When adjusting the thermostat back up, remember: only 2-degree increments at a time to avoid engaging the costly electric heat strips.
- Invest in insulation. Cover up any areas in your home where heat might escape using inexpensive insulation from your local home improvement store. Start with foam weather stripping for your doors and windows; it's cheap and extremely easy to apply.
- Change your HVAC filters every month. This will help your unit run more efficiently and keep the air in your household cleaner.

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### KEEPYOUR HOME SAFETHIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Consider safety at every step when preparing your home and family for happy gatherings. Here are some ways to ensure your home is safely aglow this holiday season:

- Flameless is safest. Avoid using candles by switching to battery-operated flameless candles. Many LED flickering flameless candles deliver the same ambience as candles without the worries.
- Tree position is important. Place your indoor tree away from fireplaces, the traffic flow, and doorways. Heaters can cause cut trees to dry out, so keep the stand filled with water. Use only non-combustible or flame retardant materials to trim your tree.
- Always test electronic decorations and light strings. Only use those with UL labeling, and make sure outside decorations are intended for use outdoors. Discard and replace strings with frayed or damaged wiring or plugs. Energy-efficient LED light strings shine cooler and brighter than standard strings and last for many years.
- Don't overload. It's best to use surge protectors when plugging in multiple light strands, but never plug more than three standard sized light sets per single extension cord. Never pull lights out by the cord, use the plug when pulling from the wall socket.



#### ELECTRIC PRICE FOR 1,000 KILOWATT-HOURS

Total	\$116.91	\$116.91
Power Cost Adjustment	\$33.84	\$33.84
KWH base charge	\$78.57	\$78.57
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
NOVEMBER		DECEMBER