



TIDINGS

December 2016



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BEACHES | ENERGY  
SERVICES

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## 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.



## SHOW YOU CARE DURING THE HOLIDAYS!

At times, elderly, disabled or low-income members of our Beaches community are simply unable to pay their utility bill because of a sudden or temporary financial crisis. Beaches Energy Services' CARE Program is designed to help until they can sort out their situations. The CARE Program depends on your help to make it work. This holiday season, we encourage our customers in Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach, and Palm Valley to donate a small amount each month to the CARE Program. It's easy to be a friend and donate by completing a simple sign-up form, which you can download from [www.beachesenergy.com](http://www.beachesenergy.com). Beaches Energy Services will match all contributions, doubling the impact of your generosity.

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

	November	December
Base charge, residential	\$4.50	\$4.50
KWH base charge	\$77.57	\$77.57
Power cost adjustment	\$35.84	\$35.84
Total	\$117.91	\$117.91



## KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE THIS 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 clever 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.
- Turn everything off before bedtime. Turn off all holiday lights of any kind – inside and out – before retiring at night.



## SCAM ALERT: BE ON GUARD

**BILL PAYMENT SCAMMERS** will make unsolicited phone calls to utility customers claiming to be a representative of a utility company. The utility company's phone number may show up on your caller ID via an app using caller ID spoofing. The scammers will threaten to shut the power off unless a payment is made immediately with a prepaid money card that is purchased at retail stores and local pharmacies, such as Walgreens or CVS. The scammer will ask the customer to call back with the card and pin number.

**Tips to follow:** Do not make any payment to anonymous callers. Try to get the caller's name, phone number and any other related information. Contact Beaches Energy Services' emergency phone number **904-247-6171**, and report SCAM phone calls to the police at **904-270-1661**.