

your Connexion

A monthly publication for members of Connexus Energy.

October 2011

Make the switch to LED holiday lights

Light emitting-diode or LED holiday lights have been around for several years now. Their popularity is growing as consumers find out they can keep their electric costs down and still keep the holiday spirit alive. Here are five reasons why making the switch to LEDs makes sense this holiday season.

1. LEDS ARE ENERGY EFFICIENT

They can save up to 98% of the electricity needed to power incandescent light strands. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the amount of electricity consumed by just one 7-watt incandescent bulb could power 140 LEDs – enough to light two 24-foot strings.

2. LEDS WILL SAVE YOU MONEY

You've seen LEDs at the stores, and they aren't cheap. However, you can save money by taking advantage of the discount coupons provided by Connexus Energy. And, because LEDs use less electricity, you'll start saving money on your energy bill immediately.

3. LEDS ARE MORE DURABLE

Unlike incandescent light bulbs, LEDs don't have a filament that might break or burn out. What do LEDs have? Epoxy lenses that are almost indestructible, which means you can drop them, step on them, and they'll keep on shining brightly. LED bulbs can last for more than 100,000 hours. That means you could potentially have your LED holiday light set around for many holiday seasons.

4. LEDS LAST LONGER

LED holiday light strings that have earned the ENERGY STAR® rating can last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent strands.

5. LEDS HAVE VIBRANT COLORS & VARIETY OF SHAPES & STYLES

Most LED lights produce a truer, brighter color than a filtered bulb. They also come in many sizes, from mini lights to the larger C7s and C9s. And, like the incandescents, LED holiday light strands are equipped with special effects like blinking, dimming, and color shifting.



Community Calendar

Driver Improvement Program—55 Alive

November 4

December 1 & 2

To pre-register, call 1.888.234.1294

Sponsored by St. Cloud State University

Held at Connexus Energy

Connexus Energy

14601 Ramsey Blvd.

Ramsey, MN 55303

Lobby Hours

Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Customer Service Hours

Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

763.323.2650

Outage Information

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Email

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Website

connexusenergy.com

Gopher State One Call

In Minneapolis area, 651.454.0002

Outside metro area, 1.800.252.1166



Owned by the members we serve.

Save some green by going green

Running LED holiday lights on one 6-foot tree for 12 hours per day for 40 days can save 90% or more energy when compared to traditional incandescent lights.

Type of light	Electricity cost*
Standard C-7 (125 bulbs, 4 watts each)	\$25.13
Mini incandescent lights (300 bulbs, 0.4 watts each)	\$ 6.03
LED holiday lights (280 bulbs, 0.04 watts each)	\$ 0.56

*Electricity price of 10.5 cents per kilowatt hour

\$500

Make the Switch Sweepstakes

As part of our *Make the Switch* to LEDs promotion, members can enter the sweepstakes for one grand prize of a \$500 energy credit. Details are available at connexusenergy.com.

Community Corner

Dear Connexus Energy

"On behalf of Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau, we thank you and we sincerely appreciate your continued support. Your support and caring about kids and community demonstrates how together we can impact and ensure the success of youth and families."

Jeanne Walz
Executive Director
Lake Area Youth Service Bureau

Cash Back in November

Cash Back is coming. Watch for it next month. If you're getting Cash Back, you'll receive a credit on your November statement. Cash Back is based on your annual electric purchases, and it's another advantage of being a member of Connexus Energy.

Connexus Energy Board of Directors

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Keep clear path to meter

It's hard to believe but winter is just around the corner. Last year, record snowfall caused problems for our meter readers. This is a reminder to make sure to shovel snow from around your meter. A blocked path could mean our reader is unable to access and read your meter, and your electric usage will be estimated.

Energy Efficiency

Tip of the month

If your washing machine is more than 10 years old, your energy dollars may be going down the drain. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families can cut related energy costs by more than a third—and water costs by more than half—by purchasing a clothes washer with an ENERGY STAR label. Choose a front-load or redesigned top-load model.