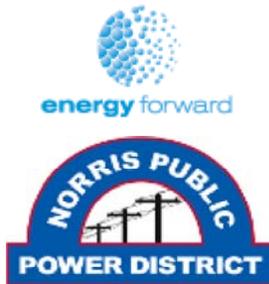


Having trouble viewing this email? Try [accessing it](#) via your web browser.



IN THIS ISSUE

- [Holiday Hours](#)
- [Christmas Lights](#)
- [Holiday Safety](#)
- [Polar Bear Paws](#)



Norris Public Power
606 Irving Street
Beatrice, NE 68310
402-223-4038
www.norrisppd.com

Follow us on:



[Forward Email](#)

Holiday Office Hours

[back to top>>](#)

Office Closures

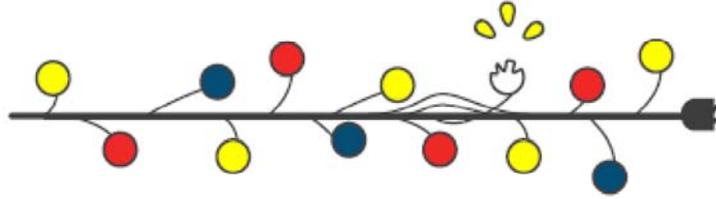
Norris Public Power District offices will be closed:

Monday, December 24th
Tuesday, December 25th
and
Tuesday, January 1st

Have a **Safe and Happy**
Holiday Season!

To report outages, please call 800-858-4707





Save money and energy this winter with LED Christmas lights.

The temperature outside is dropping, snow has begun to fall from the sky and the time for hanging up Christmas lights is upon us. Using those old incandescent lights could mean an uptick in your home's energy usage, along with a higher electric bill.

If you treasure putting up lights on the house and around the tree, then don't worry, you can still save some money, by using LED lights. LED lights can use up to 99 percent less energy and last 50 times longer than the incandescent alternative.

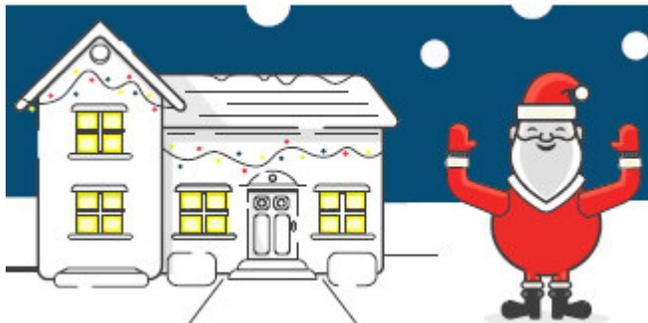
LED lights can be more expensive than incandescent bulbs up front, but the investment will save you more money on your energy bill in the long run. The longer life span of LED lights will save you money on replacements as well.

Using more efficient lights also frees up energy that can be used to heat homes when temperatures hit their lowest points during the winter.

Norris Public Power District is always striving to help customers make their homes and businesses as energy efficient as possible and using LED lights for both Christmas decorations and your general interior and exterior lighting provides outstanding savings.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, LED lights are much cooler and reduce the risk of combustion or burnt fingers, more resistant to breakage, last longer and are easier to install.

Tis the season -- to celebrate safely!



This isn't just the time of year that we eat more than usual, it's also the time when we have the most household accidents and fires.

To help make sure your holidays don't go from merry to scary, remember these Twelve Holiday Safety Tips.

1. Keep decorations at least three feet away from heat sources, especially those with an open flame, like fireplaces and candles. Remember to blow out your candles when you leave the room or go to sleep.
2. The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you are decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture, out of windows or across walkways and sidewalks.
3. If you have a natural Christmas tree, water it to keep it fresh and safe. Real trees can dry up and turn into kindling in no time at all. Get rid of the tree after Christmas. Dried out trees are a fire hazard and should not be left in the home or garage.
4. Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you're sleeping. Most deadly fires happen while people are asleep.
5. Be mindful of how you are using electrical outlets. If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home. Extension cords are a common cause of home fires.
6. Only use electronics in dry areas.
7. Remember that phones and tablets should stay on your nightstand. Overheated electronics under pillows and blankets are dangerous.
8. Need a perfect gift idea? How about a smoke alarm? Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas and on every level, including the basement. And remember to test your own to make sure they're working.
9. If you're using a space heater, switch it off before leaving the room. It only takes seconds for a fire to start if a space heater tips over or comes in contact with something combustible, like a blanket or curtains.
10. Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out.
11. Keep batteries stored safely in their packaging and out of reach of anything that might try to eat them, like small children and pets. Eating a battery can be deadly.
12. The best gift for your family is to upgrade to Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI) breakers or outlets. It is estimated that half of the electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs. All upgrades should be completed by a qualified electrician.

From the Norris family to yours, have a safe and happy Holiday!

ESFI-Electrical Safety Foundation International

Ingredients

- 1 (11 ounce) bag Kraft Caramel Bits or squares
- 3 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 cup peanuts roasted or cocktail
- 12 ounces vanilla almond bark or white melting wafers



Instructions

1. Line a large cookie sheet with parchment paper and grease it with butter. Set aside.
2. Melt caramels with butter and cream in the microwave in 30 second increments, stirring and repeating until smooth.
3. Mix in the peanuts and then let it sit in the bowl to cool for about 15 minutes, stirring every few minutes.
4. Spoon onto the greased parchment paper in tablespoon size mounds. Place in the fridge for 30 – 60 minutes until set.
5. Place chocolate in a bowl and melt in the microwave on low in 30 second increments and stir until melted and smooth. Dip caramel cluster in the chocolate and use a fork to remove it. Holding it over the bowl, tap the fork on the edge to let any excess chocolate drip back down. Place cluster back on the parchment lined pan and repeat with remaining clusters.
6. Put the pan back in the fridge for 30 – 60 minutes until chocolate is set. Remove and package up.

Author: Garnish & Glaze