

GET *Enlightened* ABOUT SAFETY



Tip of the Month:

Be merry and bright, but don't let your holiday lights shine all night. Save money on your electric bill by installing a light timer for your decked-out home. It can help lower your electric bill and reduce energy consumption.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

PRACTICE ELECTRIC SAFETY & PREVENT FIRES

As you decorate for the holiday season, NOVEC's risk management department urges Co-op members to follow these eight safety precautions:

- Check lights for a certification label, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), to ensure lights have been safety tested.
- Make sure all outdoor decorations are marked for outdoor use.
- Check electrical decorations for damage. Damaged sockets, bare wires, and loose connections can cause a serious shock or fire.
- Use electric or battery-operated candles and noncombustible or flame-resistant tree decorations.
- Plan ahead! Read instructions to know how many light strands can be safely connected, and match the power requirements of your lights to your extension cords.
- Protect electrical cords from damage. Never pinch a cord between doors, windows, or furniture and never place it under a rug. Don't attach cords with nails or staples, and keep them away from heat sources.
- Never plug extension cords/surge protectors together in a "daisy chain."
- Make sure your circuits are protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) or purchase cords or devices that provide in-line GFCI protection.

NOVEC wishes all of our members a very safe and happy holiday season, and a safe, prosperous, and happy new year!



Do not overload your outlets.

Holiday Office Closures:

Nov. 10, 2017 Dec. 22-25, 2017
Nov. 23-24, 2017 Jan. 1, 2018

NOVEC offices will be closed for Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

The operations center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even on holidays. To report outages, call 703-335-0500 or toll-free 1-888-335-0500.

- Congratulations -

Nicholas and Tiffany Meadows of Centreville, Va., won this quarter's new customer survey drawing and received a \$25 Lowe's gift card.

HELP YOUR CO-OP HELP THE COMMUNITY

1. Operation Turkey

NOVEC HELPS will collect Thanksgiving food for low-income families in Prince William County during Operation Turkey. Donations may be dropped off from Nov. 1 to Nov. 13 from 8:15 a.m. - 5 p.m. at these NOVEC offices:

10323 Lomond Drive **14500 Minnieville Road**
Manassas, VA 20109 **Woodbridge, VA 22193**

NOVEC will deliver the food to SERVE (part of Northern Virginia Family Service) for distribution. Suggested donations: Non-perishable food items like canned meats; vegetables; cranberries; gravy; pie filling; instant mashed potatoes; rice; bagged/box stuffing; bread, biscuit, and muffin mixes; box dessert mixes; sugar; evaporated milk; and graham-cracker pie crusts.

2. Virginia Run Turkey Trot

NOVEC is co-sponsoring the 29th Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, starting at 8 a.m. at the Virginia Run Community Center, 15355 Wetherburn Court, Centreville. Proceeds from the run will go to INOVA's Life with Cancer program. Find out more at www.vrturkeytrot.com.

3. Toys for Tots

NOVEC HELPS will collect new, unwrapped toys Nov. 27 – Dec. 8 for the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and other charitable organizations that distribute toys. Donations may be dropped off at the NOVEC offices listed above, 8:15 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

About HELPS

NOVEC HELPS, Hands Engaged in Local Public Service, is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization of NOVEC employees who volunteer their time to do community service. The HELPS board of directors votes on projects and events to support, whether with financial donations or with feet on the ground.



Before Christmas trees turn brown, take them down!

NOVEC WILL RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAY GREENS

RECYCLE YOUR TREES AND GREENS

Once your holiday festivities are over, make sure your tree doesn't become a fire hazard! The National Fire Protection Association says Christmas tree fires are three times more deadly than most home fires, because dry trees go up in flames in seconds.

WHEN: **Dec. 26 to Jan. 8**

WHERE: **NOVEC's Gainesville Technical Center,
5399 Wellington Branch Drive, Gainesville**

(LOOK FOR THE PARKING LOT DESIGNATED BY ORANGE SAFETY CONES.)

Trees and greens must be free of all decorations, metal ornament hooks, and light strings before NOVEC's tree crews recycle them into chips and mulch.

"Most people agree that it's more fun to put up and decorate a Christmas tree than to take one down," says Rick Carpenter, manager of NOVEC vegetation management. "But before a tree turns brown, take it down. Please don't let it become a fire hazard."

For more information, contact NOVEC vegetation management at 703-392-1600, 1-888-335-0500, ext. 1600, or vegetationmgmt@novec.com.

Don't wait until you have an outage!

Update up to two phone numbers today so you can report outages quickly and effectively.

Your phone numbers listed on your account lets NOVEC locate your address instantly, which speeds up power restoration.

How to update your phone number(s):

- Update your account information at www.novec.com.
- Call the Customer Care Center at 703-335-0500 or 1-888-335-0500.



www.novec.com

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