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# Ways to Reduce Energy Use This Holiday Season



Tucson Electric Power



## 'Tis the Season to Save

From gifts to get-togethers, it's no secret the holiday season can put a strain on one's budget. However, limiting your energy use can help alleviate some of the costs associated with hosting family and friends, giving gifts and decorating your home.

Here are eight tips to reduce energy consumption during a time when you should be more concerned with consuming tasty treats, delectable meals and warm beverages.



1

## Switch to LED Holiday Lights

Using 90 percent less electricity than regular holiday lights, LED lights will help you reduce energy use and cost during the holiday season. They also last longer (up to 100,000 hours) and the bulbs are typically plastic, reducing their risk of breaking.



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## Limit the Time Lights are on

There's nothing more beautiful than seeing your holiday decorations glowing and twinkling, but limiting their use will reduce your utility bill. Turn them on when they're most likely to shine – after dark – and turn them off before bed. If you have trouble remembering to shut them off, try using an automatic timer.



3

## Turn the Thermostat Down When You Have Guests

When there are more people in your home, the extra body heat can allow you to turn your thermostat down a few degrees.



4

## Take a Walk to See the Holiday Decorations

Leave the car at home and stroll around your neighborhood to see the lights and holiday decorations. Don't forget to turn the lights off when you leave your home.



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## Buy Gifts that Don't Use Electricity

When purchasing a gift, it seems like you're only paying as much as shown on its price tag, but if it uses electricity, it comes with additional cost.



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## Buy ENERGY STAR Electronics

There are many ENERGY STAR certified products that you may be giving as gifts this season, including certain models of DVD players, TVs, appliances and computers. Compared to non-certified models, they'll use up to 60 percent less energy when they're not in use. Find qualifying models at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).



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## Plan Shopping Trips Carefully

Avoid multiple trips to malls or stores if you can by plotting a route of all the places you need to go while shopping for the holidays. Carpooling and walking to local merchants are also great options to reduce fuel consumption. Don't forget to turn off the lights and other appliances when you leave home.



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## Cook and Clean Efficiently

When cooking in the oven, determine which dishes have the same temperature requirements for baking and cook as many as you can in the same oven at once. When cleaning dishes after holiday meals, wash full loads, steer clear of the wasteful “rinse hold” setting and use the air-drying function. If you don't have a full load of dishes to do, consider washing them by hand.

Visit **[www.tep.com](http://www.tep.com)**  
for year-round tips  
on how to save.



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