

December 2020 >>>

LED Technology
Electric and Hybrid Vehicles
Energy Rebates
"Smart" Gift Ideas
Budget Billing



Serving Stanton County and parts of Madison, Wayne, Cuming, and Colfax counties

EnLIGHTening NEWS



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LED Lighting Technology

Brighter, Safer and More Efficient

Electricity in the infant years was primarily used for household lighting. The incandescent light bulb lit homes across the world for many, many years. It was not until the last decade or so that we saw any changes with compact fluorescent and light-emitting diodes (LED) lighting. Now LED has now taken over the shelves of hardware stores across the country.

LED lighting was discovered by the British back in early 1900s and advanced by Russians in the late 1920s. The technology stalled until the early 1960s when two engineers from Texas Instruments developed infrared LED light. Next came variations of the LED lighting including visible, infrared, and ultraviolet LED lighting. The cost prevented the technology from household use and was primarily as indicator lighting in expensive lab equipment and semiconductor chips. This technology has matured over time with first household usage being in a remote control for TVs. Today we have a broad range of applications of LED lighting. There are two primary advantages of LED lighting. It is inexpensive to run and it lasts 25 times longer than traditional incandescent light bulbs. On average, LED lights can last up to 3 years longer than incandescent bulbs and is 6-7 times more efficient than incandescent cutting energy usage up to 80%. The initial cost of this LED lighting is higher than traditional lighting, however the price points are coming down. Major investment in manufacturing and government investment into this technology have driven the price down.



Manager Chad Waldow

Electric Vehicles>>>

Different Types of Electric Cars

With More than 1.5 million electric cars currently operating in the US, electric sales are forecasted to surpass 3.5 million PER YEAR by 2030.

Not all electric cars operate the same way. Four main types of electric cars exist on the roads today:

- **Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs):** They have been on the market the longest and are charged by the internal combustion engine and/or the braking process.
- **Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs)** also know as EVs: These do not rely on any gasoline power and are charged by plugging in to their home electric grid or a public charging station.
- **Plug-In Hybrid EVs:** They run on both battery power and gasoline with a smaller battery than BEVs.
- **Range Extender Hybrid EVs:** The function is the same as plug-in hybrids, but have a higher battery range due to a design difference.

For more information check out our website: www.scppd.net

Electric vehicles account for only 1 percent of today's market, but are predicted to increase to **12%** by 2055.



Safe
Electricity.org

Hybrid vehicles use about **38% less energy** while driving in the city.



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Electricity.org

Information collected from the Department of Energy

LED Lighting

Continued

The holiday season is upon us and there are several applications of LED lighting to light up your Christmas season. LED Christmas lights operate much cooler than incandescent, they last much longer, and several strings of light can be connected due to the reduced energy consumption. The chart below is the estimated cost of electricity to light a six-foot tree for 12 hours a day for 40 days according to the energy.gov website:

Type of Light	Cost
Incandescent C-9 Lights	\$10.00
LED C-9 Lights	\$0.27
Incandescent Mini-Lights	\$2.74
LED Mini-Lights	\$0.82

Source: www.energy.gov

Overall, LED lighting has made significant progress in the last decade. This technology is maturing, and applications are being developed to meet the consumer needs. LEDs are finding their way into our homes and they are here to stay.



EnergyWise Incentives >>>

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

2020 Incentive Rebate Programs

Energy Efficiency is important to all! If you are looking for ways to save energy and money, check our list of rebate programs. There are several options for customers to take advantage of in the 2020 year. For more information, check the website at www.scppd.com or call the office at 402-439-2228.

Residential Heat Pump Water Heater:

- \$400 for air source with an EF > 1.9
- \$650 for ground source with an EF > 2.8

High Efficiency Heat Pump:

- \$400 - \$3,000 Incentive
- Minimum SEER 15, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5
- Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

SMART thermostat:

- \$25-\$100 Incentive options

Cooling System Tune-up: \$30

Attic Insulation: \$0.15 per square foot - \$300 max.



Think “Smart” This Holiday Season

Save money all year-round, by considering the gift that keeps on giving.

Many smart devices reduce home energy use, which can put a little more jingle in your pocket.

Consider these five energy-saving smart gadgets while shopping this holiday season:

- **Smart thermostats** learn users’ schedules and the temperatures they prefer to keep their home. It then remembers these temperatures while a home is occupied and adjusts to a more energy-saving setting when it is not to avoid heating and cooling an empty home. Smart thermostats also feature apps that let family members change the temperature from anywhere in the world using a phone or other mobile device. Owners may also use the app to see how much energy is used and why, and then use that information to make appropriate adjustments to their home energy usage.
- **Smart lighting** saves energy in multiple ways. Smart lightbulbs last longer and use less power. Smart lighting systems also have scheduled timers and allow you to remotely turn the lights off (a great feature if you have loved ones who constantly leave the lights on).
- **Virtual assistants**, like Siri or Alexa, can connect to smart thermostats, smart lights, entertainment center devices and others. With a few spoken words, virtual assistants can turn lights, appliances and other devices off and on, activate and deactivate security systems, shut or open a garage door, and more. These home automation devices allow homeowners to control their appliances and create daily smart-home routines through smartphone apps, creating many new ways to save energy.
- **Thermal Leak Detectors** use infrared sensors to detect energy draining drafts so they can be repaired (filled) to make your home more energy efficient. Thermal imaging accessories now exist for smart phones as well, converting them into lightweight, portable thermal leak detectors. Repairing thermal leaks in a home can save up to 20% in heating and cooling costs.
- **Smart power strips and surge protectors** are a less expensive option to gain some smart technology without upgrading all appliances and devices to smart models. Smarter devices that can be used independent of an all-smart home, the strips can detect when a device is in standby mode and cut its power supply. Using smart power strips can reduce a home’s overall energy usage, which equates to savings on your energy bill.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MYTHS



Don't always believe what you hear.

MYTH: Electricity always takes the path of least resistance

FACT: Although the path of least resistance is the easiest to take, an electrical current can take any conductive path.



MYTH: Rubber gloves and shoes will protect me from shock and electrocution

FACT: That is only true if they are 100% rubber. Most everyday gloves and shoe soles are not, and the other materials they contain can be conductors.



MYTH: Voltage has to be high to kill

FACT: Although the voltage plays a role in how strong the current flows, exposure to the current itself is what's deadly. Even lower voltages can kill.



MYTH: Heavily insulated tools will always protect against shock and electrocution

FACT: Don't let a tool give you a false sense of security; take all precautions even if a tool is marketed as safe or insulated.



Safe Electricity.org®

Budget Billing >>>

Apply for our Budget Billing Program



SCPPD offers a budget billing program to all residential customer accounts. The budget billing period will follow the customer usage billings from January 1 to December 31 of each year. December will reflect the “settle-up” amount and thus close the budget year. Any amount owed the district will be paid in full by the customer. Any amount that appears as a credit balance will remain on the account and be adjusted for the new budget billing cycle.

If you are interested in applying for the 2021 budget cycle, please see our full procedure and application form on our website, www@scppd.net or stop by the office for a copy.

Applications will only be taken December 1 to December 31, 2020

Holiday Closing

The District office will be closed December 25th to observe the Christmas Holiday.

We wish you a warm and happy holiday!



It's the Law – Call
Before You Dig!
1-800-331-5666



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GENERATOR Safety

Avoid deadly backfeed and
keep linemen safe.

Learn how to **safely connect**
to your portable generator at:

Safe
Electricity.org

